

60¢

234

NOV
02457

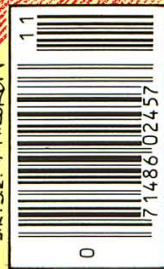


MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



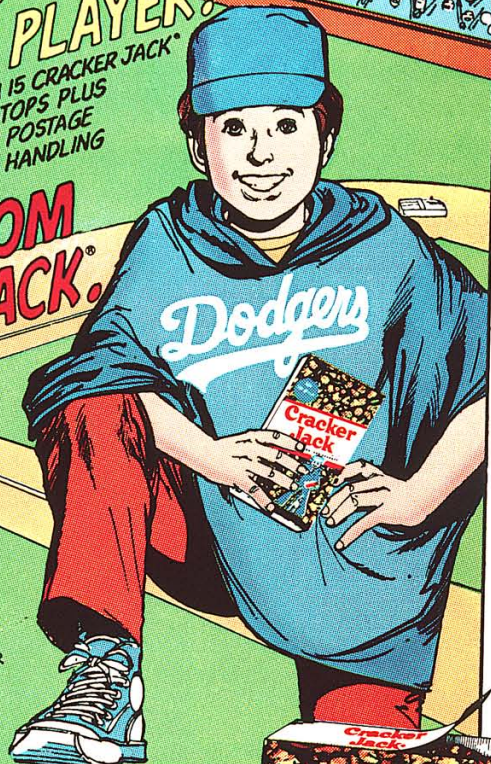
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

VS. WILL-O'-THE-WISP!



SPECIAL FEATURE! 16 PAGE BONUS INSERT
**THE MARVEL COMICS GUIDE
TO COLLECTING COMICS!**

LOOK LIKE A BIG LEAGUE PLAYER.
FREE **PONCHO FROM CRACKER JACK.**
 WITH 15 CRACKER JACK® BOX TOPS PLUS 50¢ POSTAGE AND HANDLING



KIDS, NOW YOU CAN HAVE A BASEBALL PONCHO WITH A MAJOR LEAGUE EMBLEM.*
 PERFECT FOR SCHOOL OR PLAY.
 ONE SIZE FITS ALL. (5 TO 15 YEARS).
 JUST SEND IN 15 CRACKER JACK® BOX TOPS PLUS 50¢ POSTAGE AND HANDLING AND THIS REQUIRED CERTIFICATE, OR SEND IN ONLY 3 CRACKER JACK BOX TOPS PLUS \$2.50. WRITE IN THE NAME OF YOUR FAVORITE MAJOR LEAGUE TEAM AND WE'LL SEND YOU A PONCHO WITH THEIR EMBLEM.*

*NEW YORK YANKEES PONCHO NOT AVAILABLE.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

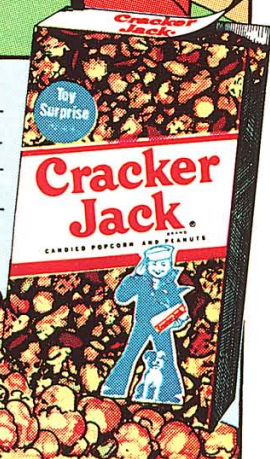
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ (REQUIRED)

MY FAVORITE TEAM IS: _____

With this certificate enclose appropriate number of Cracker Jack® box tops (foil portion only) plus appropriate amount in check or money order (payable to Cracker Jack Offer; see requirements above). Mail to: Cracker Jack Poncho Offer, P.O. Box 4050, Westbury, N.Y. 11592. Allow 6 weeks for delivery. Offer good only in U.S. and expires December 31, 1982.



© Borden, Inc., 1982.

TWILIGHT...

BRAND CORPORATION BOSTON

KRINK

KRINK

ATTENTION! THIS IS AN AMBER ALERT! WE HAVE A SECURITY BREACH AT THE SOUTH GATE!

JENKINS, THAT'S YOUR SECTOR... WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE?

JENKINS?

JENKINS... ACKNOWLEDGE!

AH... AH...

THE FIGURE SPEAKS NOT A WORD, BUT WHEN HE POINTS BACK TOWARD THE OPEN GATE, BOTH GUARD AND SEAT OBEDIENTLY SLINK AWAY...

AT THE FACTORY'S MAIN ENTRANCE, THE DOORS ARE LOCKED FOR THE DAY.

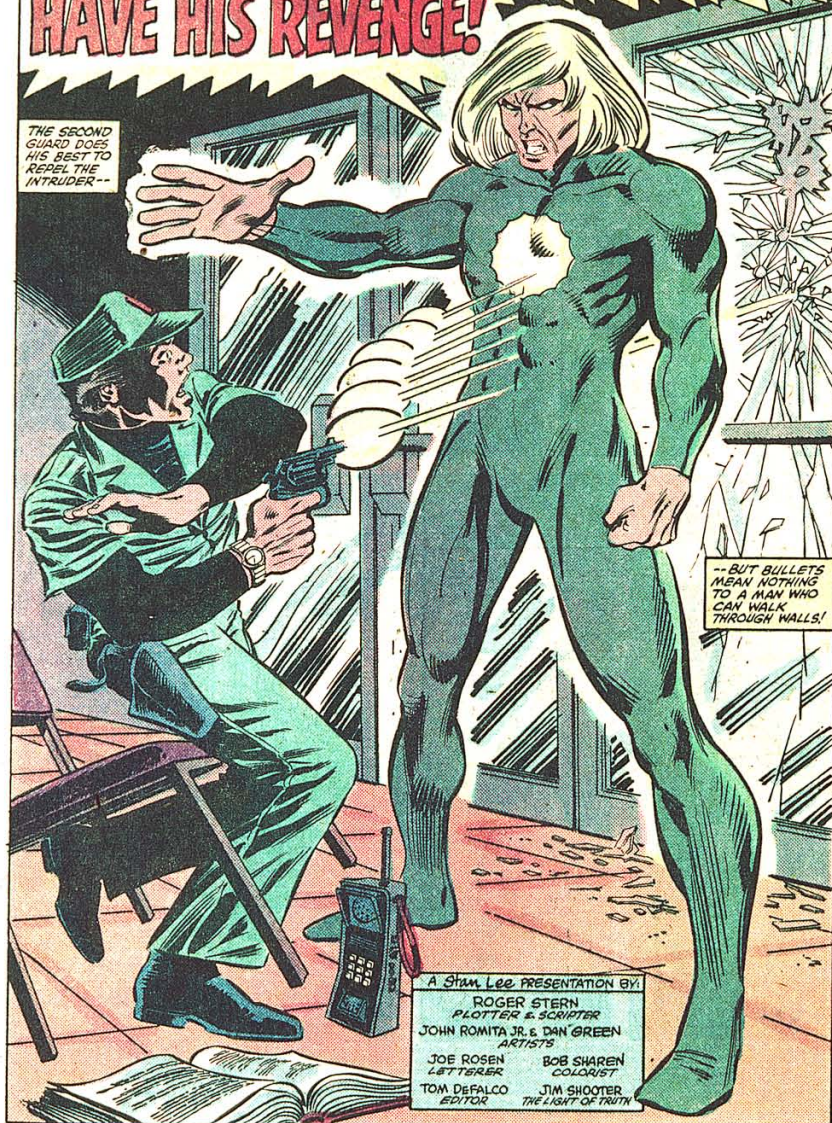
BUT NO DOOR CAN STOP THIS MAN...

...IF MAY HE STILL BE!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN® Vol. 1, No. 234, November, 1982. (U.S.P.S. 540-030) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Gallton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Second Class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. Copyright © 1982 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadmus Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 60¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity may exist in purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept. Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

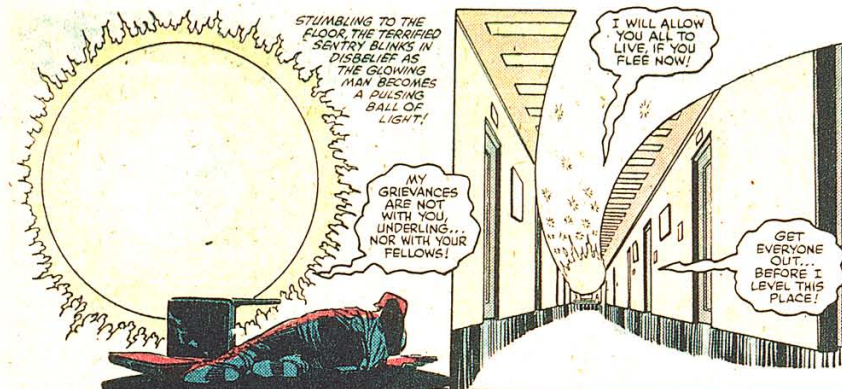
NOW SHALL WILL-O'-THE-WISP HAVE HIS REVENGE!

THE SECOND GUARD DOES HIS BEST TO REPEL THE INTRUDER--



--BUT BULLETS MEAN NOTHING TO A MAN WHO CAN WALK THROUGH WALLS!

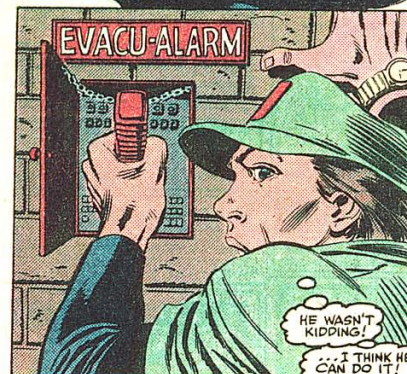
A Stan Lee Presentation By:
 ROGER STERN
 PLOTTER & SCRIPTER
 JOHN ROMITA JR. & DAN GREEN
 ARTISTS
 JOE ROSEN
 LETTERER
 TOM DEFALCO
 EDITOR
 BOB SHAREN
 COLORIST
 JIM SHOOTER
 THE LIGHT OF TRUTH



MY GRIEVANCES ARE NOT WITH YOU, UNDERLING... NOR WITH YOUR FELLOWS!

I WILL ALLOW YOU ALL TO LIVE, IF YOU FLEE NOW!

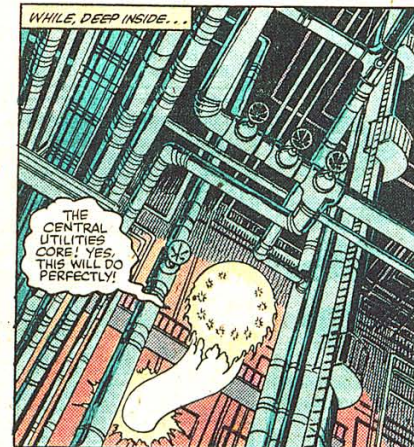
GET EVERYONE OUT, BEFORE I LEVEL THIS PLACE!



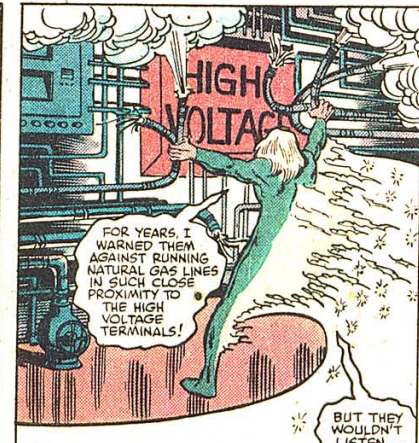
HE WASN'T KIDDING!
 I THINK HE CAN DO IT!



IN LESS THAN A MINUTE, THE SMALL CREW OF GUARDS IS OUT OF THE COMPLEX.



WHILE, DEEP INSIDE...



FOR YEARS, I WARNED THEM AGAINST RUNNING NATURAL GAS LINES IN SUCH CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE HIGH VOLTAGE TERMINALS!

BUT THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN...

MARVEL® SUPER MART



CALIFORNIA
The Comic Vendor, 18032 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503
213-515-2676

ILLINOIS
Tomorrow is Yesterday, 5611 N. 2nd Street, Loves Park, IL 61111
815-633-0330

Lyle's Hobby & Craft Center, 38 North Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL 60559
312-852-8085

INDIANA
Comic Carnival & Nostalgia Emporium, 6265 N. Carrollton Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46220
317-253-8882

MARYLAND
Comic Book Kingdom, 4307 Harford Rd., Baltimore, MD 21214
301-426-4529

Alternate Worlds, 9924 York Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030
301-667-0440

TEXAS
Lone Star Comic Subscription Service, 511-M East Abram St., Arlington, Texas 76010
817-265-0491

Lone Star Comics & Science Fiction, 7738 Forest Lane, Dallas, Texas 75230
214-373-0934

SOUTH CAROLINA
Galaxy Book Store, 5650 N. Rhett, N. Charleston, S.C. 29406
803-554-4422

VIRGINIA
The Trilogy Shop, 5767 Princess Anne Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462
804-490-2205

CANADA
The Comicsop, 2089 W. 4th Ave., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6J 1N3
604-738-8122

GREAT BRITAIN
Odyssey 7, Manchester University Shopping Precinct, Junction of Oxford Rd. & Booth St., Manchester, Lancashire, England M1 9 XX
061-273-6666

RETAILER: Want your store listed here?

Contact: K. Q. & R. Inc., 667 Madison Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10021 (212) 838-0720

EASY TO BUILD PLANS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Go Kart - \$4.00
Mini Bike - \$4.00
Both Plans - \$5.00

Build Your Own and Save Money

R.W.M. SALES
P.O. Box 660A1
Belleville, Ill. 62222

COMICS? WE GOT'EM!
Thousands in stock! Marvel's a specialty! Send 25 cents for catalog & Funny Money discount coupons. For low prices & fast service try... LONE STAR COMICS - 511 East Abram, Arlington, Tx. 76010

MARVEL COMICS BACK ISSUES FOR SALE
Over 1 million in stock, you choose the condition: Good, Very Good, Fine, Mint. Specialize in early Marvels and 1940's D.C.'s. Low Prices. Discounts for large orders. Fast Service. U.S. & Overseas orders welcome. 25¢ for giant list. R. Crestohl, 4732 Circle Road, Montreal, Canada

Add an amazing total of 15 power inches on chest, back, arms & shoulders in just 8 days with help of special-design muscle building kit on money back guarantee. Amaze friends! Send only \$9.95 + \$1 P. & H. No COD New Physique. P.O. Box 148-M, Stephentown, NY 12188

COMIC BOOKS FOR SALE

25,000 in stock. Complete Marvel & DC Groups from 1935-1982. Also TV Guides, Art, Maps, Pulp, Doc Savage, Walt Disney, Movie Items, Shadow, etc. from 1900-1982. We also buy. Send list with prices.

GIANT CATALOG 95¢
HOWARD M. ROGOFSKY
P.O. Box 1102, Flushing, N.Y. 11354

How to WRITE, SELL and PUBLISH YOUR OWN SONGS

Learn how to write songs correctly, get them recorded, sell and promote them. Secrets and methods used by professionals. Information FREE! ACE PUBLISHING, Dept. 5, Box 64, Boston, MA 02201

3 MIL COMIC BAGS
\$3.50 per 100 bags
Includes 75¢ per hundred for postage
Send 25¢ for sample bag & Marvel catalog
EMPIRE COMICS-Box M
1559 Mt. Hope Ave., Rochester, NY 14620

COMIC LIST #13
SEND A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED RETURN ENVELOPE TO:
COMIC SALES COMPANY
BOX M-352 - BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11211

PENNY PINCHER

GET IN ON ALL THE FUN WITH ANY OF THESE NEAT FULL COLOR GLIDERS YOU CAN ASSEMBLE IN JUST MINUTES.

CHOOSE ANY ONE OR ALL SIX

☐ HELLCAT ☐ CESSNA 180
☐ MUSTANG ☐ SABRE JET
☐ PIPER CUB ☐ T38 THUNDERBIRD

SEND \$1.98 + 50¢ POSTAGE FOR EACH

UNIQUE PRODUCTS
TO: P.O. BOX 356
HATFIELD, PA 19440
PA. RESIDENTS ADD 6% SALES TAX

FREE ONE MILLION \$ CASH \$

Fool all your friends. You'll get a million \$55 worth of laughs with these exact reproductions of old U.S. Gold Banknotes (1840). They're yours FREE when you send for our brand new "FUN CATALOG." Send only 50¢ (coin) for shipping.

THE FUN HOUSE
BOX 1225-MC NEWARK, N.J. 07101

MARVEL & DC CATALOG 25¢
Golden Age photo illustrated comic catalog: send only \$1.00. GRAPHITT, 960 Gayley Ave. La, CA 90024. Visit our store in Westwood village, near UCLA!

BE TALLER

For facts about HEIGHT INCREASE, send 35¢ to: TALL-UP, Dept. (60047), Box 32307, Louisville, KY 40331

BUILD MUSCLES

Big muscles in a few weeks! Write for MUSCLES, Dept. (60047), Box 32307, Louisville, Kentucky 40332

MIKE'S COMICS • STOCK OF OVER 100,000. IN BUSINESS FOR 10 YRS. OVER 60,000 TRANSACTIONS MADE. SUPER HEROES (OUR SPECIALTY). SEND 25¢ FOR YOUR CATALOG. P.O. BOX 522 REGD PARK N.Y. 11374 OR CALL 212-651-3560

BE A RING LEADER TURN A REAL DOLLAR BILL INTO A RING FOR YOUR FINGER. A SECRET WAY TO GET YOUR MONEY'S WORTH OUT OF A DOLLAR BILL. SEND \$1.00 TO: RINGS-4-5 LYNN DRIVE, FAYETTEVILLE, GA 30214

FREE COMIC LIST
CALL 1-303/893-3467 (Not toll-free!)

Call between 8 am & 4 pm (Mtn. time) Mon.-Fri. only.

MILE HIGH COMICS
OR WRITE 1717 PEARL BOULDER, CO 80302
AMERICA'S LARGEST COMIC DEALER

ENERGY GIVING, WEIGHT GAINING, WEIGHT MAINTAINING.

PUT WATE-ON'S NUTRITION TO WORK FOR YOU.

Sure WATE-ON® can help you gain weight, it has been putting pounds and inches on underweight for 25 years. But did you know WATE-ON is also a balanced nutritional supplement that gives you the extra energy elements you may need and can help you maintain your weight during periods of heavy athletics, work and play. Put WATE-ON's nutrition to work for you. Liquid, Tablets, shake mix at drug stores everywhere. For a valuable store coupon write: WATE-ON, Dept. 700, 1500 Brook Drive, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

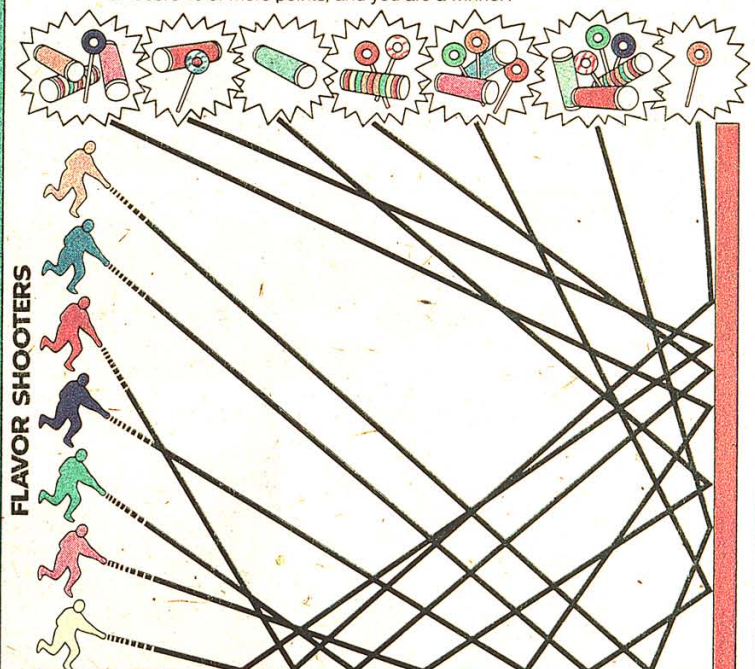
Wate-On®

LIFE SAVERS®

Be a Life Savers Flavor Shooter!

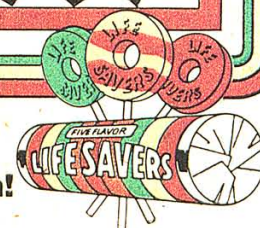
Shoot for big flavor with Life Savers Roll Candy and Lollipops. Play alone or with a friend! Here's how:

1. Select 3 Flavor Shooters.
2. Follow their Flavor Rays to the targets above.
3. Score one point for each Life Savers Roll Candy or Lollipop in each target.
4. Add up all your points.
5. Score 10 or more points, and you are a winner!



© 1982 Life Savers, Inc.

Life Savers Roll Candy and Lollipops. Super Flavors! Super Fun!





...THEY NEVER LISTENED!



GOOD LORD A'MIGHTY!

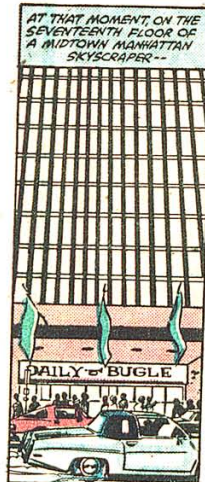
HEY...WHAT'S THAT?

THANK GOD, EVERYBODY GOT OUT! ANYBODY CAUGHT IN THERE'D BE AS GOOD AS DEAD!



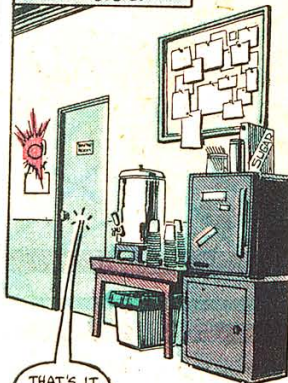
THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING, LITTLE MEN...

...ONLY THE BEGINNING!



AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE SEVENTEENTH FLOOR OF A MIDTOWN MANHATTAN SKYSCRAPER--

--IN THE DARKROOM OF THE DAILY BUGLE.



THAT'S IT, PARKER? THAT'S ALL OF 'EM?



I WAS HOPING YOU'D CAUGHT SOME SHOTS OF THE BRAND CORPORATION DETECTIVES GUNNING DOWN NOSE NORTON!*

I'D HAVE SWORN THEY SHOT FIRST!

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, URICH.

*IT HAPPENED LAST ISSUE, REMEMBER?



ALL I GOT WERE PIX OF SPIDER-MAN SAVING NORTON FROM THE TARANTULA.

TOO BAD, I HAD THE GUT FEELING THAT THOSE BRAND BOYS WEREN'T EXACTLY KOSHER, BUT WITHOUT PROOF...WELL...

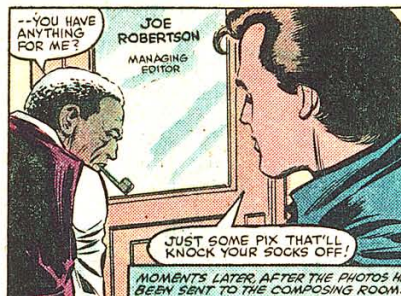
AT LEAST YOU GOT SOME CRIME PIX OUT OF THE DEAL. YA OUGHTTA WATCH YOUR FOCUS THOUGH, PETE!

I'M LUCKY THE PHOTOS ARE AS CLEAR AS THEY ARE... CONSIDERING THEY WERE TAKEN WITH MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA--

--WHILE I WAS IN THE THICK OF THINGS AS SPIDER-MAN! UH...I'LL TRY TO CHECK MY F-STOP. BETTER, BEN! THANKS.

DON'T MENTION IT, PARKER! SEE YOU 'ROUND!

HEY, ROBBIE, GOT A MINUTE? I SUPPOSE SO, PETER--

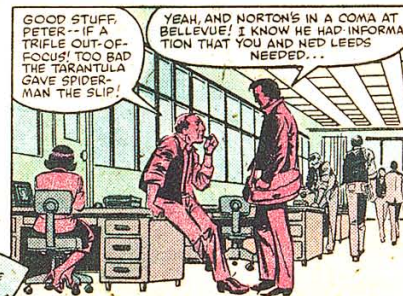


--YOU HAVE ANYTHING FOR ME?

JOE ROBERTSON
MANAGING EDITOR

JUST SOME PIX THAT'LL KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF!

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE PHOTOS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE COMPOSING ROOM...



GOOD STUFF, PETER-- IF A TRIFLE OUT-OF-FOCUS! TOO BAD THE TARANTULA GAVE SPIDER-MAN THE SLIP!

YEAH, AND NORTON'S IN A COMA AT BELLEVUE! I KNOW HE HAD INFORMATION THAT YOU AND NED LEEDS NEEDED...



...JUST WHAT IS THE SCOOP ON THAT? I MEAN, TIGHTWAD JAMESON OFFERED A \$1500 BONUS TO ANY OF US WHO COULD DELIVER NORTON TO THE OFFICE!

COPIES 254EAL

ROBBIE!



WHAT IS IT, NED?

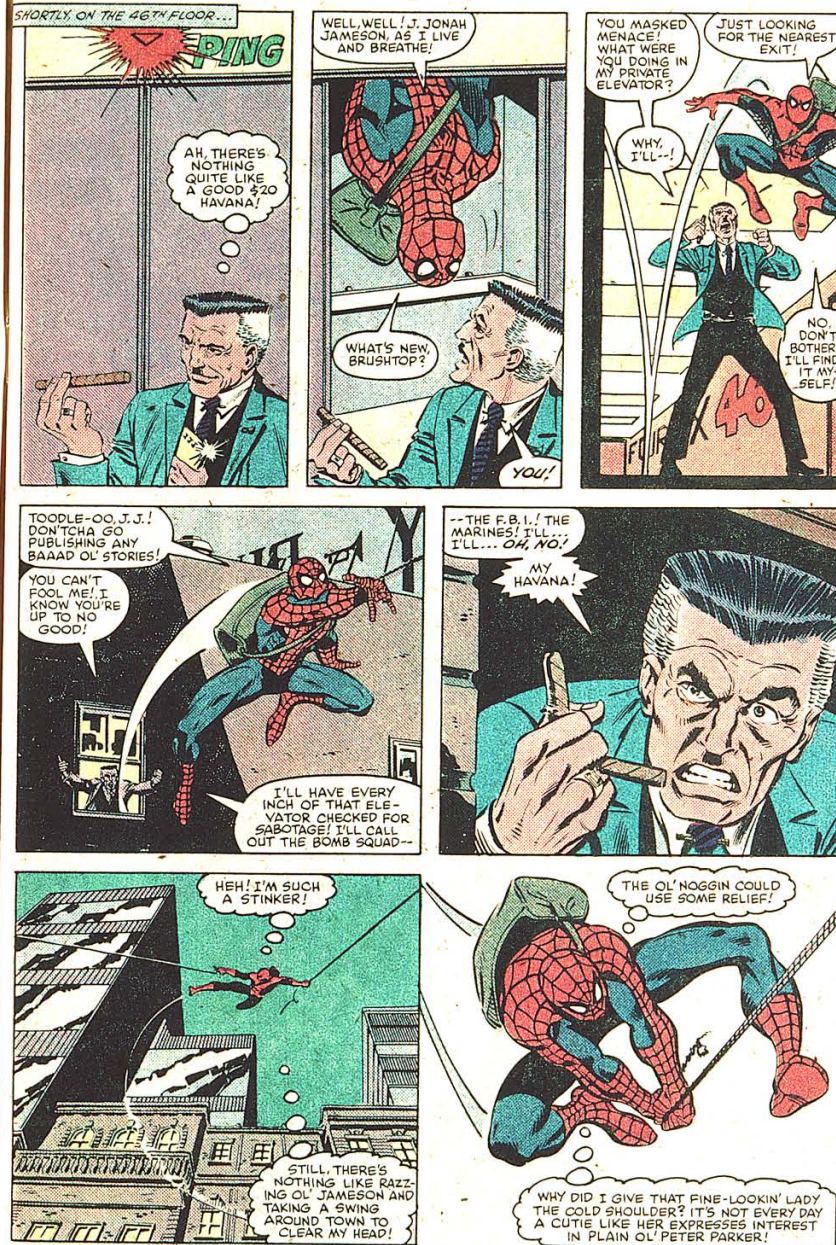
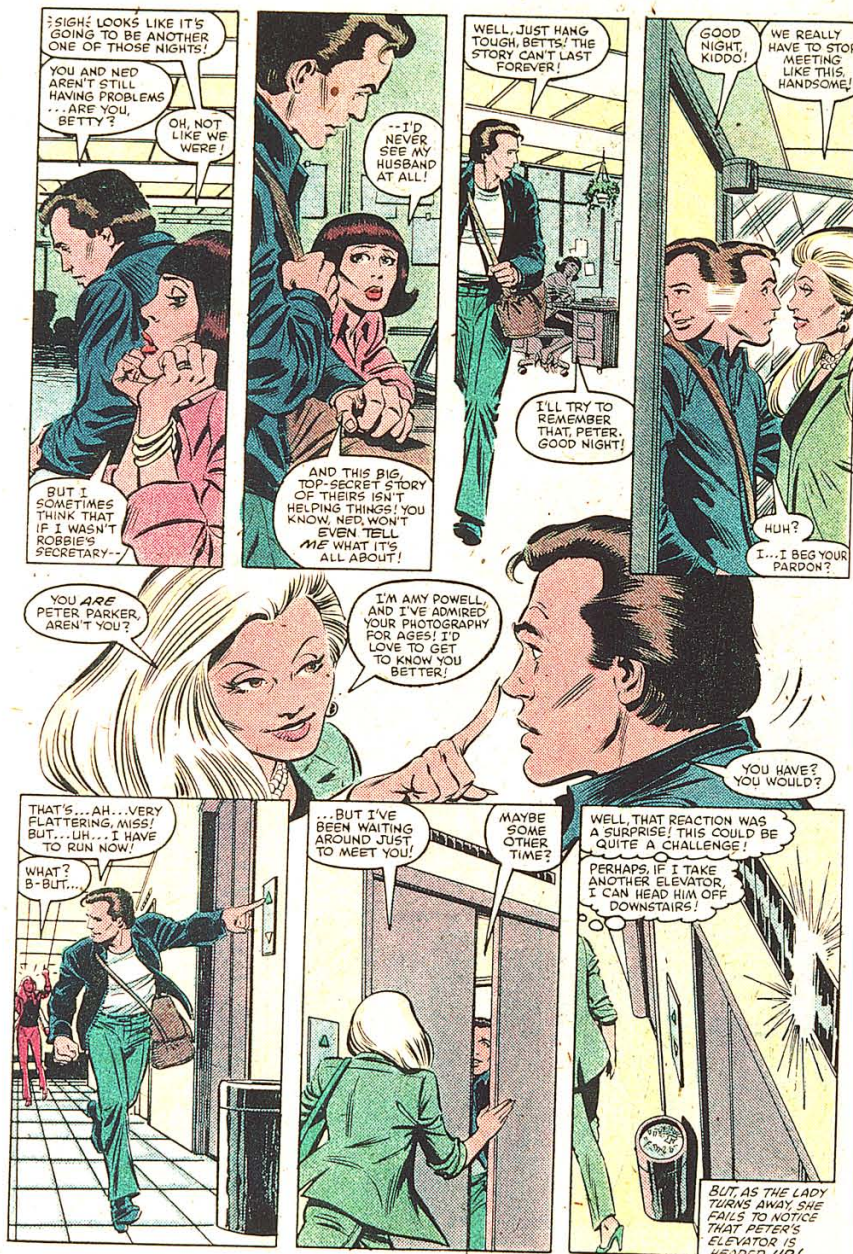
SOMEBODY JUST BLEW YOU-KNOW, WHO'S BRANCH TO KINGDOM COME.



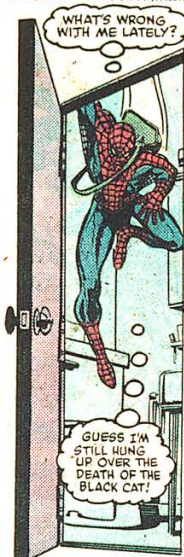
THIS COULD AFFECT OUR STORY! I AGREE! WE'LL DISCUSS THIS IN MY OFFICE!

NED? WHAT ABOUT DINNER?

GO ON WITHOUT ME, HONEY! THIS COULD TAKE AWHILE!



MINUTES LATER, RETURNING TO HIS CHELSEA APARTMENT...



WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME LATELY?

GUESS I'M STILL HUNG UP OVER THE DEATH OF THE BLACK CAT!

I HARDLY KNEW HER, BUT SHE ATTRACTED ME LIKE NOBODY HAS SINCE MARY JANE, WATSON... OR GWEN!

IN SOME WAYS SHE REMINDED ME OF BOTH OF THEM!

YEAH, BUT IT NEVER WOULD HAVE WORKED OUT. SHE COULD NEVER HAVE GIVEN UP HER LIFE OF CRIME!

"LIFE OF CRIME"? BOY, THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF AN OLD CAGNEY MOVIE!

I'D BETTER STOP IT BEFORE I GET TOTALLY MAUDLIN!

MAYBE A SPOT OF DINNER WILL CHEER ME UP!

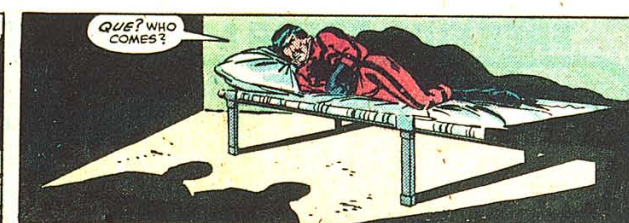
THEN AGAIN, MAYBE NOT!

DANDY! I HAVEN'T EATEN ALL DAY, AND THE FRIDGE IS PRACTICALLY EMPTY!

EH? NOW WHAT?

KNOCK KNOCK

DIOS! HALF OF MY RIBS MUST BE CRACKED! I SADLY UNDERESTIMATED SPIDER-MAN!



QUE? WHO COMES?



NO NEED FOR THE GUN, TARANTULA! "MR. SMITH" SENT US!

MY APOLOGIES, SENOR... OLD HABITS DIE HARD!



NO DOUBT! DOCTOR, YOU'D BETTER ATTEND TO HIM!

I... REGRET MY FAILURE TO KILL NOSE NORTON, SENOR.

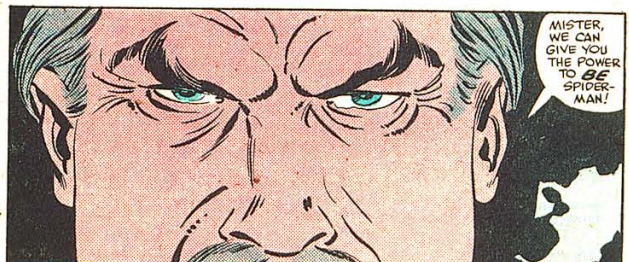


QUITE ALL RIGHT! NORTON HAS BEEN TAKEN CARE OF!

SPIDER-MAN HAS BEEN SOMETHING OF A PROBLEM! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE US TO HELP YOU ELIMINATE HIM?



OWW- YOU THINK YOU CAN GIVE ME THE POWER TO BEAT SPIDER-MAN?



MISTER, WE CAN GIVE YOU THE POWER TO BE SPIDER-MAN!



KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

ALL RIGHT! I'M COMING!

SO HELP ME, IF THIS IS A SALESMAN--!



HELLO, NEIGHBOR! OH... MISTER PINGUS! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

WELL, I'M TELLING YOU, I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF DEFROSTING MY REFRIGERATOR--



--AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD USE A NICE BRISKET, A DOZEN EGGS, AND HALF A BOSTON CREAM PIE?

AND WHILE PETER PARKER CONTEMPLATES DINNER--

WELL, AH... YES!



-- ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY, THE KILLER KNOWN AS TARANTULA PONDS HIS RECENT DEFEAT...

...THROUGH A FOG OF PAIN.

FREE FULL COLOR MARVEL POSTER!



This full color, 17" x 11" reproduction of MICHAEL GOLDEN's superprint is yours - FREE!, when you include 50¢ to cover postage and handling. Along with your poster, you'll receive an illustrated catalog, showcasing more comic-related merchandise! The free poster is our way of introducing ourselves to you - THE COMIC ART FAN!

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE ON A PIECE OF PAPER, PLUS 50¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING, AND SEND TO:
S.Q. PRODUCTIONS INC. • BOX 7, DYKER HTS. STATION • BROOKLYN, NY 11228



"America's Greatest Family Newspaper Since 1882"

We are Looking for a few Good Boys and Girls
Who would like to —

Earn their own spending money
Earn neat prizes
Gain practical business experience

By
Introducing

GRIT
AMERICA'S GREATEST FAMILY NEWSPAPER

To Friends, Relatives
Neighbors and Others

GRIT Will Help You Start Your Own Business

You can be among the thousands of boys and girls in small cities and towns all across America who earn their own spending money every week by introducing GRIT to their family, friends and neighbors. GRIT will help you get started in a profitable business of your own by sending you papers, all the supplies you'll need, and suggestions on how and where to begin. GRIT will assist you in every way to make this a happy, successful and profitable venture. HURRY! SIGN UP NOW.

State law requires newboys and girls to be 10 years or older, 12 years or older in the states of AL, DE, LA, MA, MO, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, VA and WI.

GRIT PUBLISHING CO.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Papers sent only in the Continental U.S.

*** Fill Out and Mail This Coupon In An Envelope Today ***
GRIT PUBLISHING CO., Williamsport, PA 17701 MC 82

Please send me all the details and copies
each week to start my own GRIT route.

Name

In Care of

Address

Town State ZIP

Age Date of Birth Month Day Year

☐ Male ☐ Female Please Print Your Last Name Plainly Below

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Now Bubble Yum[®] is SUPER YUM[®]

It's longer
lasting!!!

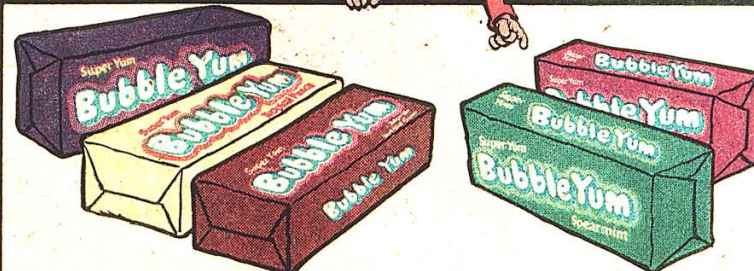
super Yum
Bubble Yum
REGULAR Bubble Gum

Wow!
It's the best
tasting ever!!!

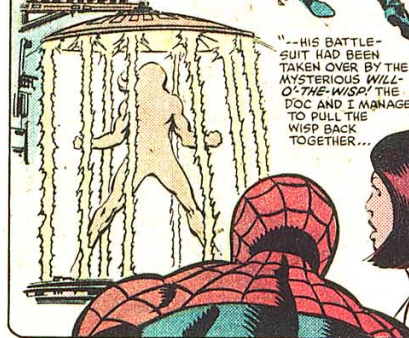
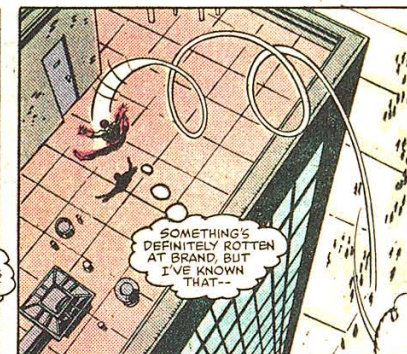
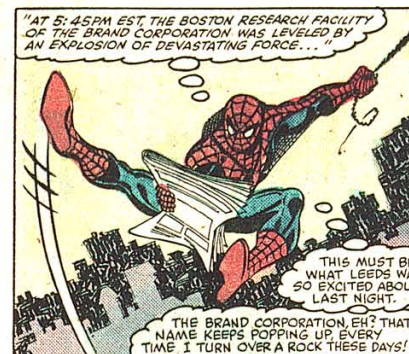
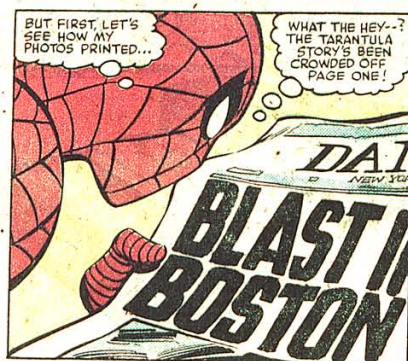
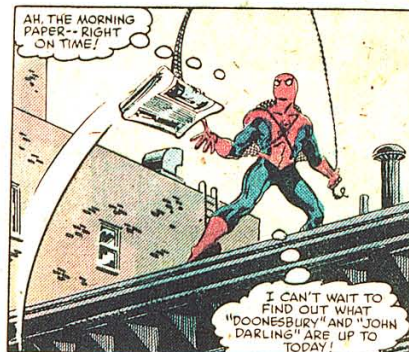
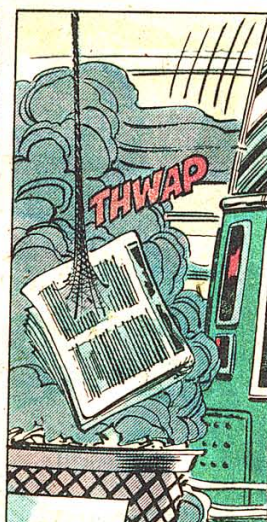
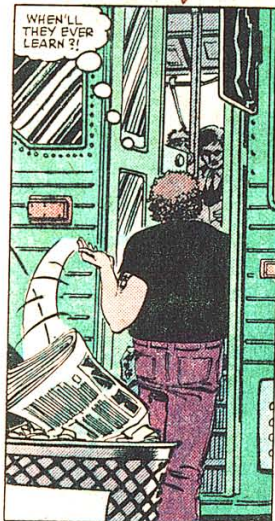
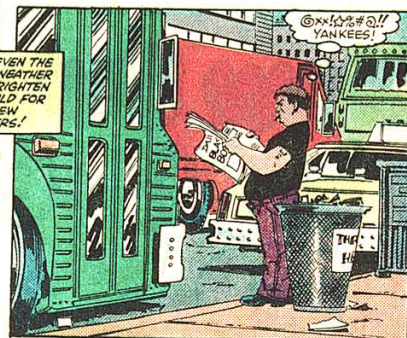
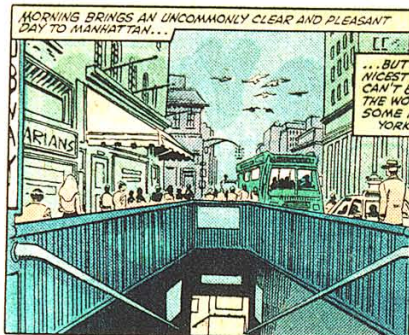
It's smoother
and blows great
bubbles!!!

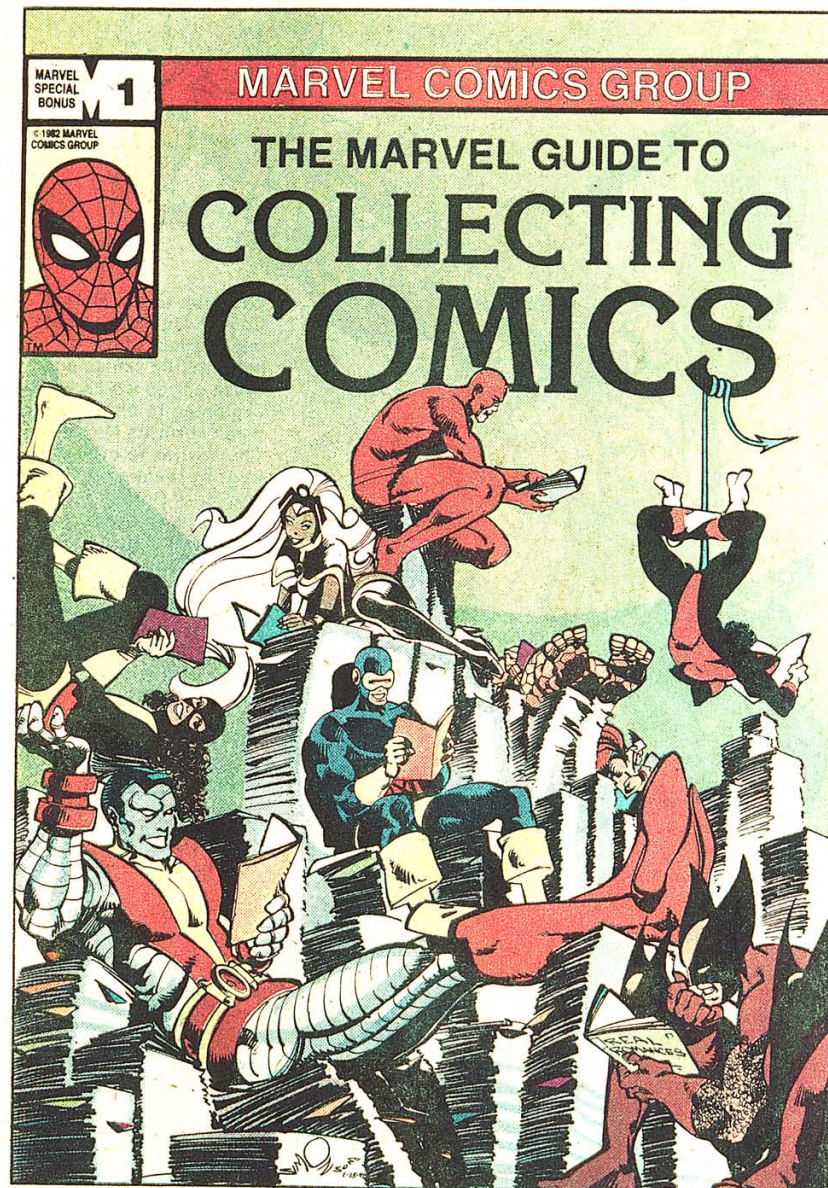
It's more
delicious!!!

Hey, look at
all the great
tasting flavors!!!



© 1982 Life Savers, Inc.







Welcome to the **Marvel Comics Guide to Collecting Comics**, which we hope will be valuable to those of you who are just beginning to discover the magical thrills **Marvel Comics** has to offer you. I want to thank Joel Fischer and Mark Burbey for allowing us to adapt their own original guidebook, Walter Simonson for his lively layouts and artwork and Sol Brodsky and his crew for their professional production work. Now go enjoy yourselves!
 --Mike Friedrich

Mike Friedrich	Editor
Jim Shooter	Editor-in-Chief
Mark Burbey	Text
Walter Simonson	Design and cover
Deborah Pedler	
Sol Brodsky	Production
Mike Hobson	Vice-President, Publishing

The **Marvel Comics Guide to Collecting Comics** is published by **Marvel Comics Group**, James E. Galton, President; Stan Lee, Publisher. Office of Publication: 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.
 ©1982 **Marvel Comics Group**, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. Adapted from "Comics for Fun, Comics for Profit," ©1979 Sunshine Comics, 6370 Bird Road, South Miami, FL 33155; (305) 667-8287. Used with permission.

Beginnings

The hobby of collecting specific things is one enjoyed by a great many people of all ages. The hobby of collecting coins and/or stamps can boast of having the largest number of enthusiasts, but the motivation here is primarily money. Coins and stamps are graded on rareness, condition, etc., and their appeal to collectors is generally based on their value. Coins can't really be admired like paintings, and while there is a certain amount of craftsmanship to be appreciated when studying a stamp, their artistic value is limited.

Probably the most artful hobby is the collecting of works of great art and antiques. At the same time, this sort of collecting can easily be the most expensive, and one can always

see many of these things in a museum.

The collecting of comic books, while not the largest hobby in the world, is certainly growing larger all the time. More and more books are appearing about the art of collecting comics.

As one gets further into collecting comics, the value of certain ones becomes apparent, which I will discuss later on, but the primary appeal of comic books is the fun they offer.

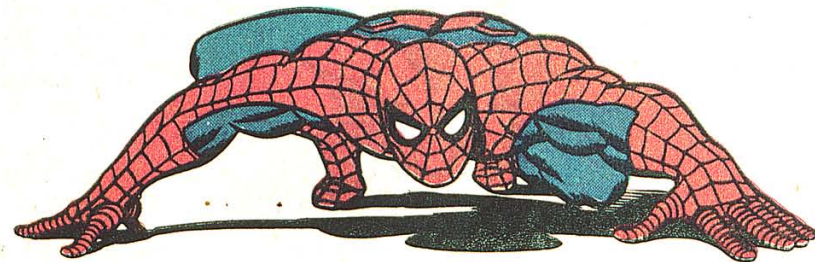
Though most collectors discover comic books as children there are many fans who don't get interested until as late as adulthood. Career people ranging from writers and actors to doctors and scientists read and collect comics.

Kids discover comics in every conceivable way. I discovered them back in 1966 when the **BATMAN** television program starring Adam West was all the rage and everybody was wearing **BATMAN** T-shirts, doing the ridiculous Batusi, and reading **BATMAN** comic books. Though I had read a comic book every now and again before then, my "first" comic was an issue of **DETECTIVE COMICS**, and that led me into buying every comic I could lay my hands on. Back then comics were only 10¢ or 12¢, and you could buy almost 10 for a dollar.

I was 11 years old when the collecting bug bit me and I still have a love for comics. When I was starting out, however, there was a lot I didn't know, and a lot I just plain didn't notice, realize or understand.

The purpose of this book is to try and make some of these things that confused me back in 1966 a little clearer to you, the new collector, now.

--Mark Burbey



Definitions

The following are terms that you'll need to know in order to readily understand the basics of comic collecting.

BACK ISSUE: An issue of any comic book previous to the latest one. This can refer to last month's issue, or an issue published many years ago.



GOLDEN AGE: A period of time in the history of comics running from around 1935 (when comics began being published) until 1949. All comics published within this time are called Golden Age comics.



SILVER AGE: This period began in 1956 when THE FLASH appeared in DC's SHOWCASE No. 4, bringing in the new wave of super heroes. Marvel, however had the greatest impact on the future of comics when a few years later they published the first SPIDER-MAN story in AMAZING FANTASY No. 15. The Silver Age runs into the late 1960s.



ORIGINAL ARTWORK: This is the actual artwork that the comic companies reproduce photographically and print as comic books. There is no color on the original art, as that is later added by a separate process.



COMICS CONVENTION: A gathering of fans, collectors, professional comic artists and writers and comic book dealers, to enjoy, discuss and sell comics. Conventions are usually held in hotels, and also feature movies, original art displays, etc.

FANZINE: A magazine devoted to any facet of the comic arts published by someone other than a comics publishing company. Fanzines can sometimes be cheaply produced and amateurish in appearance, or often very professional looking and even better than magazines found at newsstands. Fanzines are usually found at comic shops or purchased through the mail.

The following is a guideline for the beginning collector. As you become more familiar with this hobby, it will become second nature to you to describe the condition (grade) of each book you encounter.

MINT: Perfect condition, complete, like new, still with original print lustre.

FINE: Slight signs of wear, but still with cover gloss – no tears or obvious defects.

GOOD: Complete with cover attached and some signs of soiling and wear in particular.

Again . . . the condition of your books determines the value of your collection.



COMICS CODE AUTHORITY: An organization that most publishers of color comic books must show all their material to before publishing. The Code judges whether or not the material is within the guidelines set by the Code to insure it is suitable to be read by younger (and presumably impressionable) readers.

FAIR: Complete but some tears in covers and some pieces of covers missing; soiling of pages, rolled spine.

POOR: Uncollectable, incomplete, badly worn, large pieces missing from cover, water damaged.



It is important that the beginning collector know the issue number of his/her favorite title, i.e. 4th, 5th, etc. So, here with other valuable information is . . .

The Comic Book Cover

NUMBER AND MONTH OF ISSUES. All comics start with a No. 1 issue and a month (Jan, Feb, etc.). The number and month advance with each successive issue. Example: STAR WARS No. 52, Oct. STAR WARS No. 53, Nov. It is important that you do not miss an issue or you will not have a complete collection of the title you are collecting.

Tells you the **COMPANY** responsible for publishing the book.

PUBLISHER'S SUGGESTED PRICE.

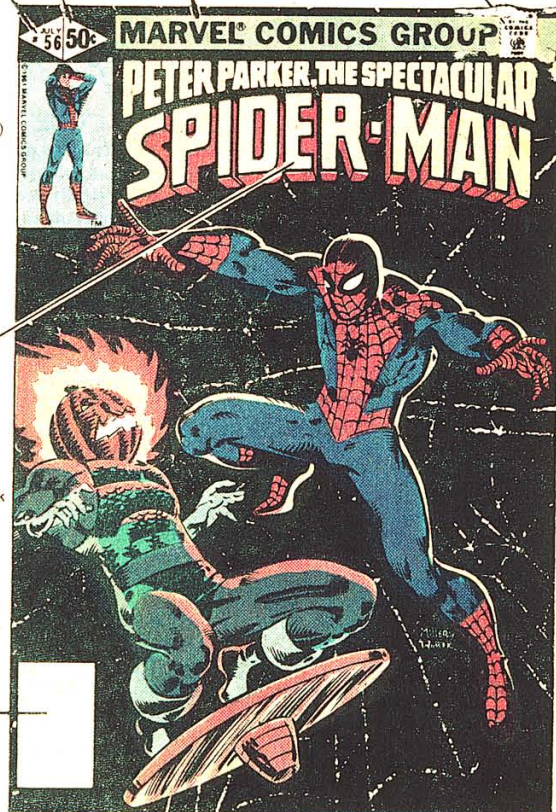
COMICS CODE AUTHORITY SEAL See page 5.

The number, month and price in this diamond shape means the issue was not distributed by Curtis Circulation and, that you probably got it from a direct sales comic shop or other outlet. The two boxes (not shown here) with a little "cc" symbol means it was circulated by Curtis. It means nothing as far as value is concerned to collectors. Please Note: MARVEL has recently replaced the diamond shape with this newly designed symbol:



TITLE OR MAIN CHARACTER in book. (Note: some books rotate features therefore it is important to be able to distinguish the main title from the sub-title. Example: MARVEL PREMIERE, featuring ALICE COOPER. The name of the book is MARVEL PREMIERE not ALICE COOPER. Main titles are usually in smaller print above the sub-title (larger print).

On many copies this space contains the **UNIVERSAL PRODUCT CODE** which allows comics to be sold in supermarkets and convenience stores across the country. All products sold in these stores have this code. The code symbol is "read" by cash registers which are hooked into special computers. Distributors also use this code.



The Great Escape

As I mentioned in the introduction, most fans of comics collect them for fun, although many do take their monetary potential into consideration while collecting.

In my opinion, however, the fun should take precedence over the money. While this may be a slightly biased point of view, I've talked and corresponded with many fans who feel the same way.

I think the first things beginning fans notice about comic books is the artwork, and the bright and exciting colors on the covers and the inside. When one starts reading comics, he may find that some books have better artwork than others. He will not be as particular though, until he has read many more comics and knows who all the artists are.

In most cases, the beginner will not be able to immediately distinguish one artist's work from another's. The art will look obviously different, but the primary thing on the fan's mind will be the action taking place on the pages.

Even as one begins to take further notice of the artwork he will at first find it hard to believe that he will someday be able to immediately recognize and identify just about any comic artist simply by glancing at a single drawing. But he soon will, and this is when collecting comics becomes even more exciting, because the collector will then begin to choose favorite artists and seek out their work with a special fervor.

People certainly collect comic books to read rather than just to look at. But when I first started reading comics, I never gave much thought to who had written the stories. Even when I did, I

couldn't quite imagine how they went about it. It was obvious how the art was done: an artist simply took the pencil in hand and drew it. But what did the writer do? Was he even necessary?

I eventually realized that the writer was very necessary indeed, equally as necessary as the artist. While the monetary value of a comic is rarely based on who wrote a comic, the actual purpose of the comic is to entertain and whether it succeeds or not depends a great deal on the ability of the writer.

The younger reader of comics is generally attracted to the super hero comics, as those are usually the most visually exciting. As the reader/collector gets a little older, he will have eventually come to notice most every book on the comic rack he/she visits every week. When he/she does, they will find that there are many different kinds of comics, such as horror/mystery comics, war comics, western comics, humor comics, and even love comics. It is when he/she begins to notice these various types of comics that he/she will begin to get more and more involved with the stories and the plots and the characters. He won't even mind as much if every page doesn't have a fight scene on it, or even a super hero on it. While before he may have bought a certain title just because he liked the character, regardless of whether or not he liked the artist or the storyline that had been ongoing for the last 6 months, he will become more discriminating. He/she will actually base their decision on who the writer or artist is. So, basically people collect comics either because they simply enjoy them or they find them profitable.

What's Right For Me?

As far as present day comic books are concerned, there are seven different companies to collect from: MARVEL, DC, GOLD KEY, CHARLTON, ARCHIE, HARVEY and PACIFIC.

MARVEL and DC are the largest companies, MARVEL being the more popular of the two. Both companies publish super hero comics first and foremost. In addition MARVEL publishes science fiction comics such as STAR WARS as well as "reprint" comics that re-publish stories that have appeared before, MARVEL TALES, for example, reprints old SPIDER-MAN stories. Also every year, usually during the summer and early fall months MARVEL publishes what they call "ANNUALS". These are special, large issues of their most popular super hero titles, and from year to year they might contain either new or old material or both.

Along with their super hero comics DC also publishes mystery, western and war comics. All these comics follow a fixed format, meaning that they look the same from month to month. DC also has revived publishing "annuals".

GOLD KEY, ARCHIE and HARVEY aim their comics at the younger readers. GOLD KEY consists mostly of comics based on TV and cartoon characters, such as DISNEY, TOM & JERRY, MIGHTY MOUSE and BUGS BUNNY as well as more serious comics like RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT and TUROK, SON OF STONE. ARCHIE and HARVEY publish comics intended for children between the ages of 5 and 12, concentrating solely on humor comics. Regardless of who ARCHIE and HARVEY aim their

comics at however quite a few older fans collect their titles.

CHARLTON, once a company that ranked 3rd or 4th insofar as popularity, now depends chiefly on material that has already been paid for and published by them, resulting in a line consisting entirely of reprint books. They publish ghost, western, war, and love comics only. If and when you go looking for back issues of CHARLTON comics, however, you will find quite a few super hero titles such as BLUE BEE-TLE drawn by STEVE DITKO, the original SPIDER-MAN artist, THUNDER-BOLT and the recent E-MAN. Quite a few artists who now work for MARVEL and DC began drawing for CHARLTON and you will find their work in many CHARLTON back issues. Some of these artists include JIM APARO, TOM SUTTON, JEFF JONES, MIKE KALUTA, DICK GIORDANO, JOE STATON and MIKE ZECK.

PACIFIC COMICS is a new comics publisher with just a couple of titles focusing on science fiction and fantasy.

Because today's comic books are so easy to get (you just go down to the comics store and buy them) this type of collecting would probably be referred to as "everyday collecting", the kind everybody does.

But there's another kind of collecting, the kind that takes a certain kind of knowledge and experience that slowly develops the more you collect.

This type of collecting involves hunting down comics from the early 1960s, 1950s and even the 1940s. It requires more money to collect these simply because these comics are harder to find and are more eagerly sought, but if you find

the right comics and know how to deal, then you are bound to come out ahead in every case.

Among the old comics that are popular collector items are Golden and Silver Age* and EC comics.

Whereas more recent comics are collectable because popular characters are drawn by popular artists, many Golden Age comics are valuable merely because they're old and harder to get and they feature

a highly popular character such as SUPERMAN, BATMAN or (the original) CAPTAIN MARVEL. Also, there are many characters that aren't very well known today but were once quite popular and are now costly to collect such as BULLET-MAN, the original HUMAN TORCH and others.

Silver Age comics, particularly those published by MARVEL, are not always as hard to find as Golden Age books nor are they as expensive in comparison. But Silver Age comics are probably the most sought after. A run of early issues of such titles as SPIDER-MAN or the FANTASTIC FOUR in mint condition can easily cost hundreds of dollars, even thousands. Many Golden Age comics can cost several thousand dollars apiece.

Still, as I keep emphasizing, the reason one starts collecting comics in the first place is because they find it fun. And for the collector, there is a way he can obtain some of these comics inexpensively.

*See definitions on page 4 and charts on pages 10 and 11.

Here's an example:

I am a big fan of STEVE DITKO's early SPIDER-MAN stories. His artwork appeared in the first 38 issues and to collect a mint set of these in 1981 would cost approximately \$2,000. The price is so high because these issues are fairly hard to find in mint and they are sought after by many collectors. But I wasn't interested in the rarity of the originals or in the investment potential. All I was concerned with was the quality of the art and the stories and the fun I'd have reading them. So, what I did was this: I made a complete list of every DITKO SPIDER-MAN appearance, and went about finding where each one had been reprinted. Most of them have been reprinted in the earliest issues of MARVEL TALES, but some were also reprinted in MARVEL COLLECTOR'S ITEM CLASSICS and in several of the SPIDER-MAN annuals. What it finally came down to was that I was able to obtain every DITKO SPIDER-MAN story, including the first one in AMAZING FANTASY No. 15, for less than \$75. It would have been over \$100 had I been seeking mint copies, but I wasn't. (By the way, if you want to collect the early SPIDER-MANs like this please note that issues No. 28 and 29 have never been reprinted anywhere, so you would have to buy the originals, costing between \$6 - \$8 each in mint.)

The EC comics I mentioned earlier are highly popular and also expensive to collect. This company started publishing comic books in the late 1940s, but it wasn't until the early to mid 1950s, under the direction of William Gaines, that EC

began to publish an excellent series of horror, science fiction, and war comics. Of these particular genres, those published by EC are considered to be the finest ever produced. The quality of the art and writing were on an equal level, making for visually exciting, stimulating, thought-provoking stories. No one since has been able to rise to the greatness of EC's accomplishments.

At the time EC was publishing, there were many crime and horror comics on the market, many of which showed blood, violence, and suggestions of sex. Some parents objected to their children reading such material, but enough apparently didn't mind. EC's sales, in fact, were excellent. It was this blood and violence that prompted a psychiatrist named Dr. Frederic Wertham to write a book called SEDUCTION OF THE INNOCENT. The book attacked many comic book publishers, EC in particular, for creating questionable material for our nation's children. This all became a big news story of the day, and EC went to court to defend itself. The end result of the war between the comics industry and Wertham was the creation of THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY. This code still exists today.

The highly successful MAD magazine is published by EC, which still exists today.

I have barely skimmed the surface on the subject of comics that are most popular among collectors. The ones I've mentioned are the top collector's items, but there are many others, such as the older WALT DISNEY comics, that are also very popular.



It's Better Than



It is rather unreasonable to expect the beginning fan to have the kind of money it takes to buy some of the older comics.

Still, there are many recent titles he/she can buy at reasonable prices that he/she will make money on should he/she decide to sell them. In fact, comics appear on the stands every week that will be bonafide collector's items.



It is difficult to predict what books will rise in value and which ones won't. One can make very good guesses and take his chances, but one can never be sure.

The following is a list of comic books that are a good investment but are not as expensive as Silver or Golden Age books.*

1. Daredevil No. 158	\$30.00
2. Peter Parker No. 27	25.00
3. Hulk No. 181	25.00
4. X-Men No. 129	12.00
5. Teen Titans No. 1	12.00
6. Iron Man No. 115	4.00
7. Micronauts No. 1	4.00
8. Rom No. 1	4.00
9. Moonknight No. 1	3.00
10. Ka-zar No. 1	1.25



Just because a comic is old, it does not mean it is worth a great amount of money. There are 1940 comics that are worth just a couple of dollars. By the same token, there are certain recent titles such as HOWARD THE DUCK No. 1 that are worth a fairly large amount of money. Another, even more recent example is MARVEL's MICRO-NAUTS. Even though it has only been out for a couple of years, it has been rising steadily in price.



How does one go about deciding which comic books will become

10 valuable and are, therefore, worth

investing in? Well, after collecting awhile the collector will have enough knowledge and intuition to make wise choices without worry.

The wise collector bases his choices on who the popular characters are, as well as who the popular artists are.

For example, when SWAMP THING No. 1 came out, its artist, BERNI WRIGHTSON, was already well respected among fans and collectors. So, the facts that it was the first issue and that it was drawn by BERNI WRIGHTSON made SWAMP THING No. 1 a wise investment choice. SWAMP THING ran for 25 issues, but WRIGHTSON drew only the first 10 issues. So while all the issues will rise in value as time passes, the first 10 will always be the most valuable.

The situation with CONAN is slightly different. Its artist, BARRY SMITH, is today a much respected illustrator, but he wasn't very well known back in 1970 when CONAN No. 1 came out. The big attraction instead was not who the artist was but the fact that CONAN THE BARBARIAN, a long time popular pulp fiction hero, was a big news item in collectors circles, as well as a financial success among comic readers who weren't collectors. So, even though this comic came out not more than 11 years ago, it is worth over \$55.00.

Barry Smith sadly chose to stop drawing CONAN with issue No. 24, so issues after that number will never be as valuable as those before it.

There are some other interesting things affecting the worth of comics to note. Still using CONAN as an example, even among the first 24 issues, there are variances in values for different reasons. CONAN No. 3

Money in the Bank

is worth more than No. 2 because for some reason less copies of No. 3 were distributed to the public (comics of this type are called "low distribution books" and are usually worth more than surrounding numbers).

While the writer of a comic almost never determines its worth, there are rare cases where the storyline does. Two issues of SPIDER-MAN, numbers 121 and 122, featured the deaths of two major characters: SPIDER-MAN's girl friend GWEN STACY and the GREEN GOBLIN. This alone made the two issues worth six times more than No. 120 or No. 123.

It is very possible to make bad decisions when investing in comics as they come off the stands. I can think of two excellent examples: SHAZAM No. 1 and THE SHADOW No. 1, both from DC.

DC made a very big deal out of the arrival of SHAZAM No. 1, because after many years the original CAPT. MARVEL would again be appearing in new adventures. They were even going to be drawn by the original artist, C.C. Beck. When SHAZAM No. 1 finally came out, many collectors bought dozens of copies. Within a year however, people found themselves sitting on stacks of SHAZAM No. 1 worth little more than what they had paid for them due to poorly written stories. This comic is slowly rising in price but it will be a long time before it will be worth the trouble collectors and dealers went to get them.

THE SHADOW No. 1 was an excellent comic published in 1973, and for the collector of art comics, it looked like a fine investment choice. Its artist, MIKE KALUTA, is extremely talented and by all rights his comics should be demanding much

more than they do. The fact that they don't is great for the collector who buys comics to enjoy and keep, but it just goes to show that what may look like a good investment choice may not be at all. Kaluta drew only five issues of THE SHADOW (No. 1 - 4, and 6).

The reasons why some comics succeed and some fail are many. The bottom line is this: know who the artists are and try to judge who are the most popular and who will become valuable artists to collect. You can be pretty sure that most No. 1 issues of just about any major comic from DC and MARVEL will become worth more than what you pay for it. The important thing to remember when investing in new or old comics is to take very good care of them and try your hardest to keep them in the condition you buy them in.

The following is a list of the 10 most valuable SILVER AGE comics.*

1. Amazing Fantasy No.15	\$1,100.00
2. Fantastic Four No.1	1,100.00
3. Showcase No.4	1,000.00
4. Amazing Spider-Man No.1	600.00
5. Incredible Hulk No.1	600.00
6. Journey Into Mystery No.83	420.00
7. Fantastic Four No.2	400.00
8. Showcase No.8	320.00
9. Fantastic Four No.3	300.00
10. Flash No.105	275.00

*These prices are based on an informal survey taken in the fall of 1981 and should not be considered definitive. Prices vary dramatically according to supply and condition.



Getting Them: Half The Fun

It is the obtaining of comics that is the true act of collecting and a lot of fun.

There are several ways to go about it. The best way is to check your local newspaper for conventions or your telephone directory to see what comic shops are in your area.

Comic shops are stores that specialize in comic books and related material such as plastic bags, fanzines, original art, etc. SUNSHINE COMICS in Miami, Florida, for example, carries all the new comics, plus many back issues. A specialty shop will give you personal attention and in many cases you can reserve your new comics in advance, thus assuring you don't miss an issue which is very important to a complete collection. Also, you can be guaranteed of receiving only mint copies.

For back issues, a comic shop is especially advantageous because you can look a comic over before buying it. When buying comics through the mail, you will usually get a fair shake but you can never be sure of what you're getting until it is too late.

Some comic shops don't always have a wide array of the older comics (1940 - 1960). However, some shops will make every effort to obtain older books for you if they don't already have them.

If you do decide to order books through the mail there are a few tips you should know: never send cash through the mail, checks or money

orders only. Before making a purchase, try to compare prices from one dealer to another. Prices sometimes vary greatly as do grading systems. Before mailing an order away, make a note of what comics you've ordered, who you ordered them from, how much you paid, and when you sent the order in. Most dealers are prompt in sending books. However, if you do not receive your order within about two weeks it is wise to write regarding the delay. It's always good to be organized. Though there are always bargains to be found, beware of items that seem almost too good to be true. Normally, you can trust most mail order advertisers but you'll sometimes run into shady dealers who advertise books they don't really have, and sometimes comics that don't even exist. It is wise to buy from a reputable and established dealer.

One thing to beware of when purchasing back issues and old comics is **reprints**. There are various types of reprints such as MARVEL TALES (already discussed) in which previously published stories are re-published under a different title. There are also instances where comics are reprinted exactly as they were originally published, with little or no alteration.

Here's an example: SPIDER-MAN No. 1 was re-published in virtually its original form as part of a record package. For obvious reasons, this reprint is worth only \$4.50 in mint condition, whereas the original is worth approximately \$600.00.

More recent examples include STAR WARS No.s 1-5, which went through numerous re-printings following their original publication. (The COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE provides specific information to enable the collector to distinguish between reprints and originals.)

Two other prime examples to watch for are reprints of CHARLTON COMICS (BLUE BEETLE, E-MAN, etc.) by MODERN COMICS, and DC's FAMOUS FIRST EDITION series. Strange as it may seem, DC's oversized reprints of such famous comics as ACTION No. 1 and DETECTIVE No. 27 have been mistaken for the originals by novice collectors.

The fact to remember is reprints will never be worth anywhere near as much as the originals, and it's smart to be able to tell the difference.

Another alternative to a comic shop and mail order is a comic book convention. These are usually held in a hotel or an auditorium, and among its attractions might be guest speakers (professional comic writers and artists), art displays, auctions, and movies. The most active area of any convention is the dealers' room where you'll find the equivalent of dozens of comic shops, with many dealers right there to buy from. Look for announcements in your local paper.

If you live in an area where there are no comic shops or even newsstands, you might consider subscribing to your favorite titles. But stand warned that subscription copies are sent with very little protection and are easily damaged. There are, however, many subscription services where you can get new comics sent directly to you with maximum protection.

Bag'em and Box'em!



A UNBAGGED COMIC is fading, has rolled spine and creases.

B BAGGED COMIC has none of these defects.

There are articles in *The Comic Book Price Guide* and various other places expounding the elaborate measures a collector can go to in order to protect his/her comics thoroughly. These measures are perfectly valid, but they're rather expensive and somewhat impractical for the average collector; they're meant primarily for people who own very expensive and valuable comics.

Below I have outlined how I and many other fans protect our collections.

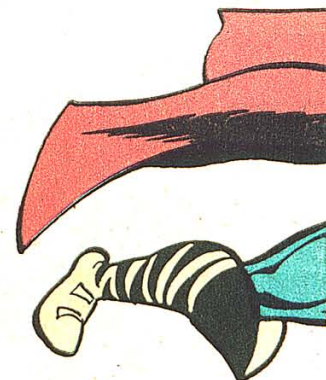
At most comic shops, collectors can buy plastic bags that

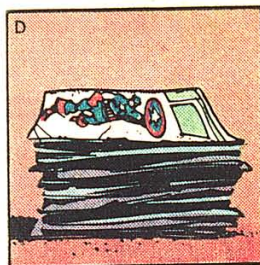
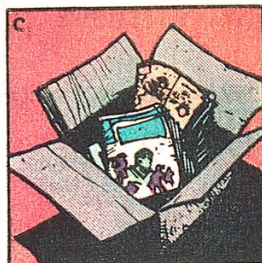
have been designed specifically to hold individual comic books. These bags are available in several different sizes and in several different gauges of plastic. The 3 mil (millimeter) size is the best. The bags will prevent comics from being soiled by dirt, bugs, moisture, etc.

It is important to store your comics upright, no matter how you do it. Storing them flat tends to bend them at the spine. Since the spine is the most important part of your comic, it should be kept as free from defects as possible. The drawings above show the ef-

fects of improper storage. The unbagged comic (A) is faded and creased, and has a rolled spine. The bagged comic (B) shows none of these flaws.

I have all my bagged comics and magazines stored upright in a large wooden cabinet with many shelves. The comics are arranged within the cabinet by company and title. I'm not saying you should go out and buy or build yourself a cabinet, as this can be very costly. Mine just happened to be in my house and I was able to make use of it. Bookcases also make fine storage space for comics.



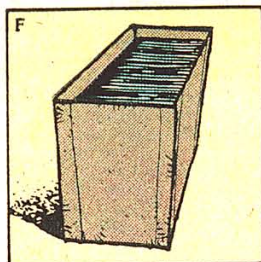


C and D are poor ways to store comics.

If you don't have a bookcase handy, you should store your collection in boxes. However, most cardboard boxes, such as the ones usually found at supermarkets, are not cut to the dimensions of comics. As a result, they will not hold comics snugly. Comics should be stored upright in boxes made to hold them. Keeping them in too large a box will cause sagging and shorten the life of your magazines. Drawings C and D above show 2 examples

of incorrectly stored comics. Drawing E shows the correct way to bag and box your investment.

If you're going to collect comics for investment, it is wise to read the comic once and put it away. If you want to look at it more than once, buy a second copy. The more you handle a copy, the more soiled and less valuable it will become. Stains, dirt, tears, and holes will all detract from the value of a book.



E is the best way to store comics.

The ideal way for the average collector to store comics is in 3 mil bags, upright, in a dark cool place. (Sunlight will ruin comics no matter what you do.) And be sure you have every comic in a bag!

For the collector who is very concerned about maintaining the good condition of his/her comics, there are special bags (mylar) and acid free cardboard boxes available which will further prevent comics from yellowing and deteriorating.

Either Rags or Riches

The time may come when you may want/have to sell your comics. The following guide-lines should be considered:

TITLE: "Key" (popular) titles such as SPIDER-MAN or THE AVENGERS will always bring a higher price than minor ones.

CONDITION: A book in GOOD condition will never be worth as much as one in FINE or MINT no matter what the title.

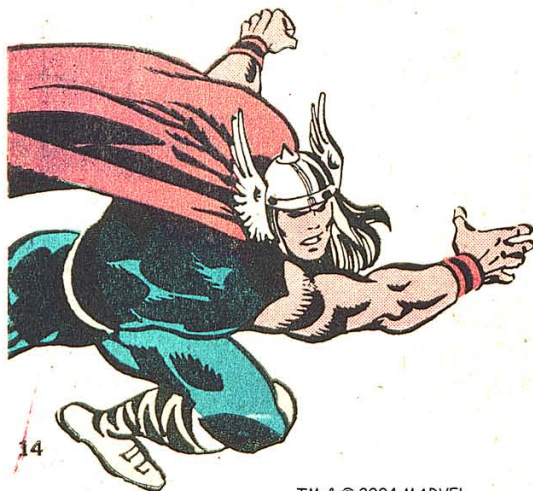
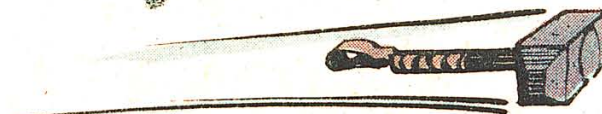
DEALER/COLLECTOR POSITION: It is important to understand the difference between selling to a dealer or a

collector! The collector buys with the intent of keeping the books for a long period of time (and then maybe selling it); a dealer buys for immediate resale and since he has overhead (rent, utilities, etc.) he has to pay lower than the market value so he can make a profit.

It takes time for a comic to become valuable. You can't buy a comic today and expect to resell it a week from now and make a profit. There are certain cases such as STAR WARS and HOWARD THE DUCK where the value has

skyrocketed overnight; however, this is the exception rather than the rule.

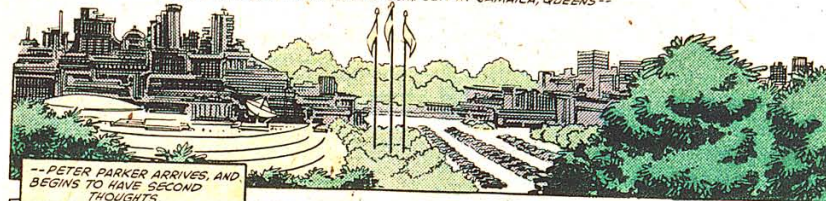
Now that you've read this booklet, I hope you have a somewhat better understanding of comics than you did before. Of course I have barely begun to scratch the surface of this fascinating hobby. As you collect more comics, you will find that you will be getting many hours of enjoyment and acquiring more knowledge along the way. Not only will you have comics for fun, but you will have comics for profit.



THE
MARVEL GUIDE TO COLLECTING COMICS
IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
MARVEL COMICS



LATER THAT AFTERNOON, AT THE SPRAWLING BRAND COMPLEX IN JAMAICA, QUEENS--



--PETER PARKER ARRIVES, AND BEGINS TO HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS.



IT'S BIGGER THAN I'D IMAGINED! CHECKING THIS COMPLEX FOR LATENT CORRUPTION COULD TAKE WEEKS!

STILL, I HAVE TO START SOMEWHERE... AND IT'S EASIER TO WALK IN AS A GRAD STUDENT, THAN AS SPIDER-MAN!

MY NAME'S PARKER! I CALLED ABOUT AN INTERVIEW?

OH, YES! JUST SIGN IN HERE, AND REPORT TO ROOM 2715!

MAN, I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY GUARDS!

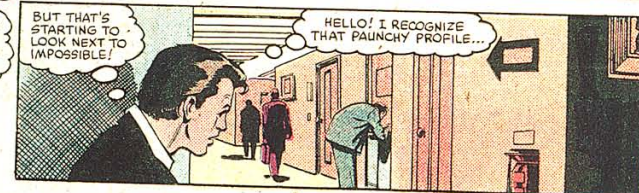


I KNOW BRAND DOES A LOT OF TOP-SECRET GOVERNMENT WORK, BUT THERE'S A SMALL ARMY IN THE RECEPTION AREA ALONE!

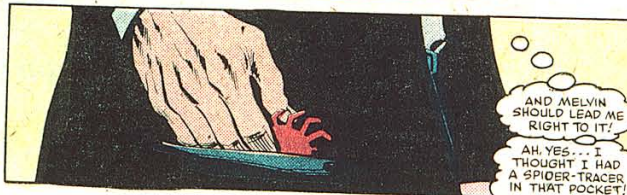
I'D HAD HOPES OF SNOOPING AROUND AND FINDING SOMETHING-- ANYTHING-- THAT WOULD GET ME TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MESS!

BUT THAT'S STARTING TO LOOK NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE!

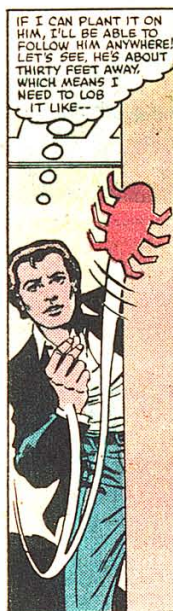
HELLO! I RECOGNIZE THAT PAUNCHY PROFILE...



"...IT'S JAMES MELVIN! IF HE'S STILL ON THE PAY-ROLL HERE, THEN THERE HAS TO BE SOME DIRTY WORK GOING DOWN IN CLOSE PROXIMITY!"



AND MELVIN SHOULD LEAD ME RIGHT TO IT.
AH, YES... I THOUGHT I HAD A SPIDER-TRACER IN THAT POCKET.



IF I CAN PLANT IT ON HIM, I'LL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW HIM ANYWHERE! LET'S SEE, HE'S ABOUT THIRTY FEET AWAY. WHICH MEANS I NEED TO LOB IT LIKE--



--SO, RIGHT IN THE OLD CORNER POCKET! OKAY, MELVIN...IT'S ALL UP TO YOU NOW!



BUT...

NUTS! IT FIGURES THAT HE'D HANG OUT IN A HIGH SECURITY ZONE! HOW DO I TAIL HIM NOW?

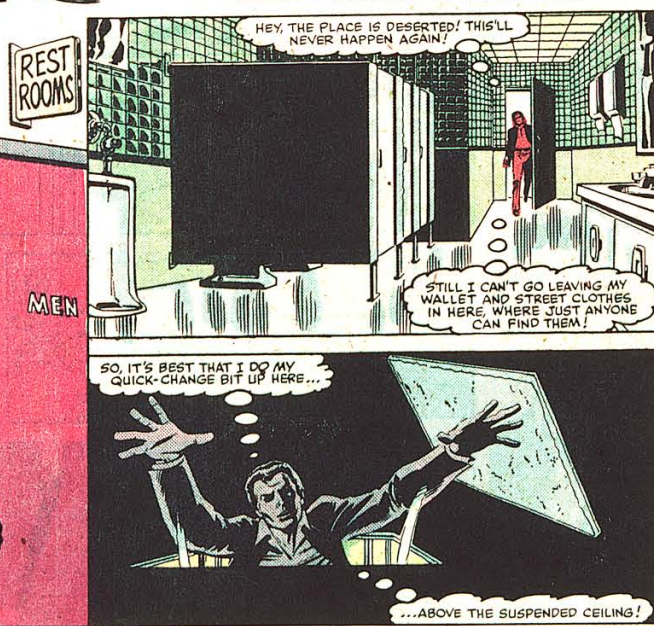


THE AIR VENTS!

I WON'T TIP OFF ANY GUARDS IF I TAG ALONG THROUGH THE DUCT-WORK!



AND I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA WHERE I CAN GO TO GAIN ENTRY!



HEY, THE PLACE IS DESERTED! THIS'LL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!

STILL I CAN'T GO LEAVING MY WALLET AND STREET CLOTHES IN HERE, WHERE JUST ANYONE CAN FIND THEM!

SO, IT'S BEST THAT I DO MY QUICK-CHANGE BIT UP HERE...

...ABOVE THE SUSPENDED CEILING!



THEN, AFTER SLIPPING THE CEILING TILE BACK INTO PLACE...

AH, THERE'S MY GATEWAY TO THE AIR DUCTS.



LET'S SEE...WEB-SHOOTERS ARE LOADED WITH FRESH CARTRIDGES OF WEB-FLUID...AND THERE'S A NEW ROLL OF FILM IN MY BELT'S MINI-CAMERA...

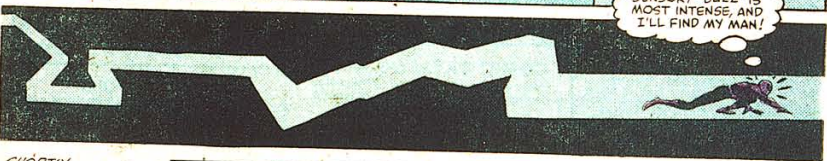


...LOOKS LIKE I'M ALL SET! TIME TO SEE WHAT KIND OF DIRT I CAN DIG UP!



YE-E-E-BAH! THE OL' SPIDER-SENSE IS PICKING UP THE FAINT ELECTRICAL IMPULSES FROM THE TRACER I PLANTED ON MELVIN!

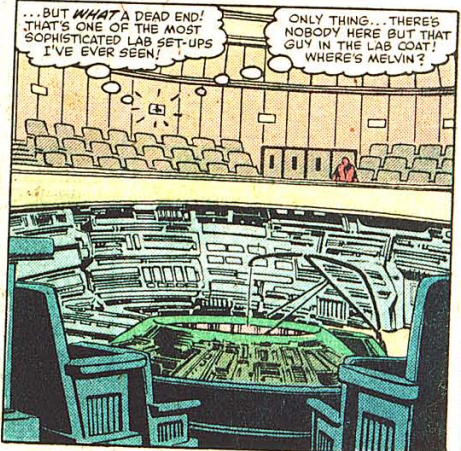
I JUST HAVE TO GO WHERE THE SENSORY "BUZZ" IS MOST INTENSE AND I'LL FIND MY MAN!



SHORTLY...



COOPS! DEAD END...



...BUT WHAT A DEAD END! THAT'S ONE OF THE MOST SOPHISTICATED LAB SET-UPS I'VE EVER SEEN!

ONLY THING...THERE'S NOBODY HERE BUT THAT GUY IN THE LAB COAT! WHERE'S MELVIN?



AH, SPEAK OF THE DEVIL--!

IS EVERYTHING READY, DR. FENTON?

WE BUY AND SELL COMIC BOOKS

MARVEL COMICS GROUP CHECK LIST AND PRICE LIST

OVER 100,000 COMICS IN STOCK!
Send \$1.00 for complete list and 48-page Marvel Pocket Checklist with sample comic bag—50¢ for price list only!

ROBERT BELL
BOX 8326, CORAL SPRINGS, FLA. 33065

STUDENTS! FANS! COLLECTORS! THE BOOK IS HERE!

"How-To-Draw TIPS FROM THE TOP CARTOONISTS"

ALCALA • ARAGONES • APARO • BERRY • BOYETTE • DRUCKER
GRELL • GRAUE • HASEN • KEANE • GARCIA LOPEZ • NOFZIGER
ROCKWELL • SPIEGLE • WALKER • WILDEY... AND AS MANY MORE!

1st Edition! Send check or Money Order to **Together!** GREAT ONES ALL!

\$9.50 Californians add 57¢ sales tax
\$1.50 p & h

DONNAR PUBLICATIONS 21790-a Ybarra Rd., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

OVER 1,000,000 COMICS IN STOCK

S.A.S.E. FOR FREE MARVEL & DC LISTS

SEND A LONG SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE FOR FREE LISTS. OR 75¢ FOR LISTS & GIANT CATALOG #6 LISTING COMICS FROM ALL PUBLISHERS TO GRAND BOOK, INC. DEPT. M. 659 GRAND ST. BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11211

ALUMINUM NAME TAG & 18" CHAIN

TELL US WHAT TO PRINT. UP TO 35 LETTER SPACES.

SEND \$1.50 PLUS 50¢ POSTAGE AND HANDLING TO: GALLAGHER ENT.

P.O. BOX 1322 BEECHER, IL 60401

OLD AND RARE COMIC BOOKS

Marvel, Disney, D.C., Golden Age and Movie Comics for sale. Also Posters, T-shirts, Dr. Who and S.F. Maps. Largest collection in the Southwest! For complete list send 25¢ to: Black Gold Comics, P.O. Box 15302, Tulsa, Okla. 74112

COMIC BACK ISSUES

150,000 MARVELS IN STOCK

Send 25¢ for Marvel Catalog & FREE COMIC BAG

EMPIRE COMICS

1569 Mt. Hope Ave. Rochester, NY 14620

HARTI COMICS

P.O. BOX 19084, PHOENIX, AZ 85009

Discounts • Money Back Guarantee

Send 20¢ or an 18¢ Stamp for Catalog

FREE MARVEL CATALOG!

(Outside U.S.A. & Canada — Send \$1 U.S. Funds)

Complete Selection From Good to Mint! 1 Million in Stock — Fast Service — Low Prices!

Mr. D.A. Belmont, Box 315, LA, CA 90025

HIGH SCHOOL

American School has helped adults FINISH HIGH SCHOOL AT HOME spare time for over 80 years. DIPLOMA AWARDED. Info. free, no salesmen.

American School, Dept. 11131
850 E. 59th St, Chicago IL 60637

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

Or call toll free:
1-800-228-5600

NO FINANCE CHARGES

UFO FLYING DISCS

FLY WITH AMAZING SPEED AND ACCURACY WHEN THROWN

\$1.00 . Pilot Items

Box 152 Rego Park NY 11374

COMIC CATALOG — 10¢

Most comics priced at 1/2 what others charge.

Comics & Fantasy, 9315 Mission Gorge Rd.
Box 309, Santee, CA 92071

visit our store call (714) 448-4539

FREE 100 3 Mil Plastic Bags!!!

When you order the New 1982 Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide. Only \$9.95 postage paid. Send \$1.00 for our Marvel/DC catalog—the Source for back issue comics, supplies, bags, boxes, etc.

Rarities, Inc.
3201 Wood Ave. • Chattanooga, TN 37406
or call 1-615-624-0568 for FREE catalog.

Become a real **Muscle Man**

Three fully illustrated books
Everything you need for \$5.00
Nothing else to buy.

Fast results:
Send for Book #12
PENDULUM BODYBUILDING CLUB
Box 246 Brooklyn, NY 11214
HAND BALANCING LESSONS INCLUDED. GUARANTEED.

MARVEL & DC COMICS LOWEST PRICES

We guarantee lowest prices. All MARVELS available from F.F. 1 to present. 5 different conditions, very strict grading. Most books from last 12 months only 60¢ ea. mint condition. Fast service, satisfaction guaranteed. For large catalogue send 25¢ to: J&S Comics, P.O. Box 2057, Red Bank, NJ 07071. We Also Buy.

MUSCLES? In 7 days

DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain weight, if needed. Lose "pot belly," Send name and address for 32-page book—FREE.

CHARLES ATLAS, 49 West 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010 Dept. 602

GOLDEN STATE COMICS

Send 25¢ for comics selling list and FREE protective comic bag.

4688 Boundary, San Diego, CA 92116
or visit our store

DISCOUNTED COMIC BOOK BACK ISSUES

Low-cost Marvels, D.C.s. Includes money-saving \$1.00 Credit Voucher plus 10% Discount Coupon. Fast, dependable Super-Service. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Send 25 cents to: MAX SEELEY, Suite 709, 1115 Sherbrooke West, Montreal, Canada H3A-1H3.

OLD MARVELS COVER PRICE

Catalog • 25¢ in coin • West Coast Comics
Catalog, Box 19549-M, San Diego, CA 92119

COMICS BELOW GUIDE

We GUARANTEE that ALL our comics are priced BELOW Overstreet Guide. First issues and good-mint early Marvels now available. Send \$2 for giant catalog.

Allaco Enterprises • Box 3567 • East Chicago, IN 46312

STAMP COLLECTING OUTFIT

Packet of stamps, 9 Triangles, 2 Diamonds, birds, animals, flowers, etc. Plus hinges, perf. gauge, ONLY 25¢ to applicants for our approval service which can be cancelled anytime... BY RESPONDING TO THIS AD YOU ARE REQUESTING STAMPS ON APPROVAL WHICH YOU MUST PAY FOR OR RETURN.

L. W. BROWN, Dept. CM Marion, Mich. 49665

50 YEARS OLD

15 different U.S. stamps at least 50 years old 25¢ with approvals which must be paid for or returned

JAXON STAMP COMPANY
P.O. Box C11-C, New Rochelle, NY 10804

BRITISH EMPIRE 104 Different includes mint pictorial colonies 10¢ with approvals which must be paid for or returned

KAMCO, Box 338H, Flushing, NY 11367

MARVEL & DC BACK ISSUES. THOUSANDS IN STOCK. FOR COMPLETE LIST SEND \$1.00 TO:

WENDAN, 448 EMORY RD.,
MINEOLA, N.Y. 11501

FREE COMIC GUIDE

ILLUSTRATED GUIDE OF MARVEL, DC & OTHER COMICS. POSTERS & FAN MATERIAL. Fast, Reliable, Guaranteed Service.

CALL 1-802-257-7600 or write:

Moondance

DEPT. M21, 12 ELLIOT ST. BOX 800
BRATTLEBORO, VT. 05301

VISIT OUR STORES IN
Brattleboro, Vermont, Amherst, Mass & Portland, Maine

The Professional Comic Dealership!

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL NEW SUBSCRIBERS!

Get the first **4** issues of your favorite Marvel Comic Subscription **FREE!**

The more you order, the more you SAVE!

DUE TO OVERWHELMING RESPONSE--WE ARE HAPPY TO REPEAT A VERY SPECIAL OFFER!

A 16 issue subscription for the price of 12 issues! YOU PAY ONLY \$6.00! A BIG 38% SAVINGS over the newsstand price of \$9.60!

PLUS THESE SPECIAL BENEFITS!

- 1) REFUND GUARANTEE — you may cancel at any time!
- 2) IMMEDIATE CASH SAVINGS — 38¢ per copy! (The newsstand price is 60¢ per copy!)
- 3) ADDITIONAL SAVINGS — Always the lowest price on renewals!

Fill out the coupon below, indicate titles, enclose remittance and mail!

4 "FREE" ISSUES SUBSCRIPTION CERTIFICATE

Please send to: **MARVEL COMICS GROUP**
Subscription Dept.
387 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10016

Subscribe at only 38¢ per copy:

☐ Yes, I'd like 16 issues for only \$6.00.
☐ I'd like to SAVE MORE — send me all titles I've checked (16 issues per title) at \$6.00 per title.

Canada: Add \$2.00 per title.
Foreign: Add \$2.00 per title.
Make checks or money orders payable to Marvel Comics.

Name _____ Age _____
(Please print)

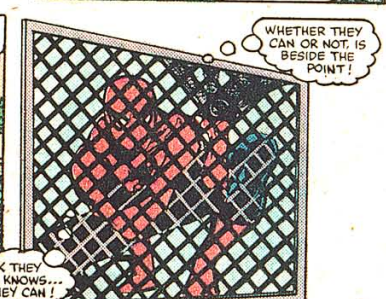
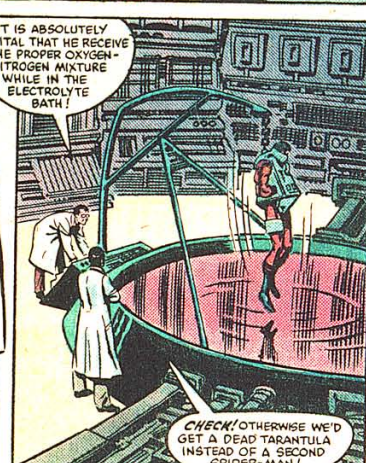
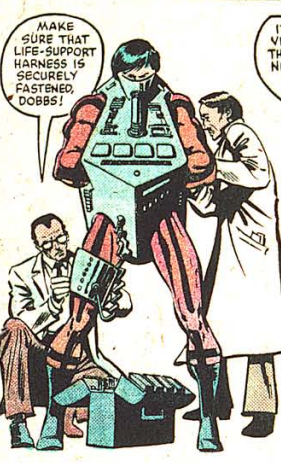
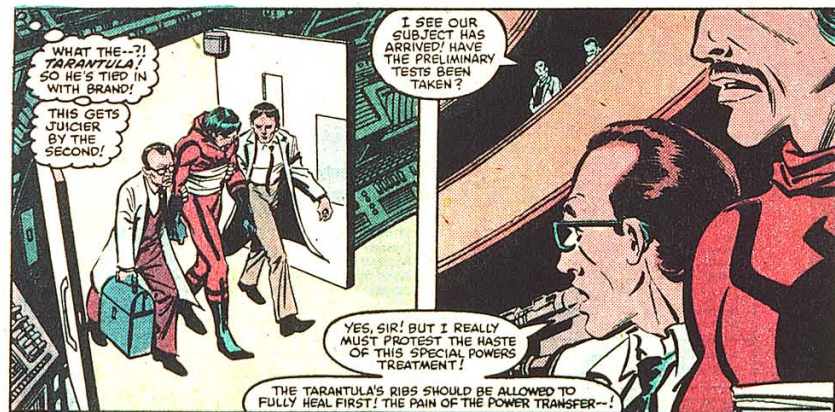
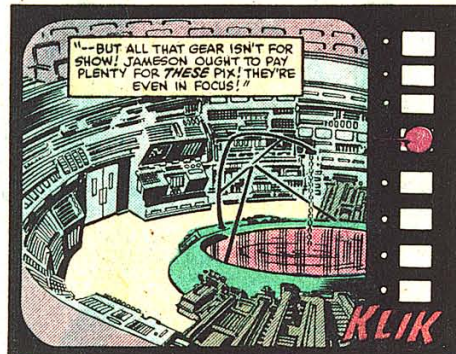
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Allow 10 weeks for delivery. **July-82**

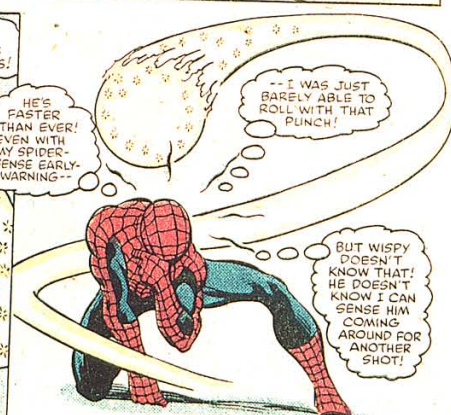
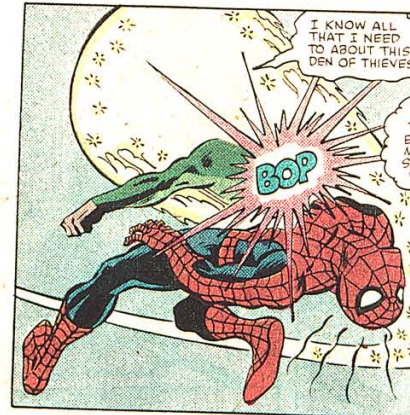
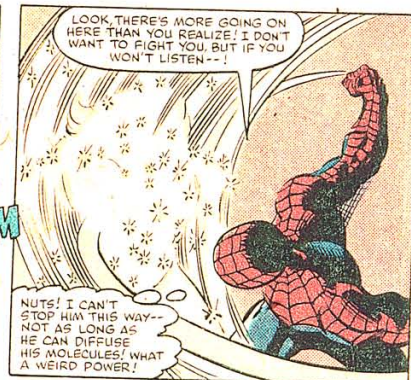
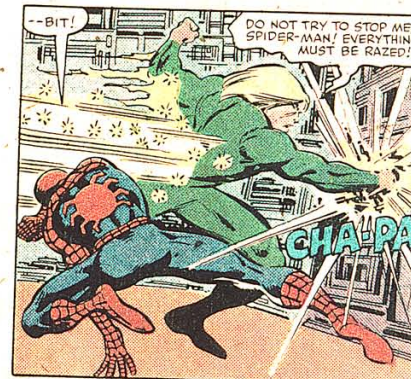
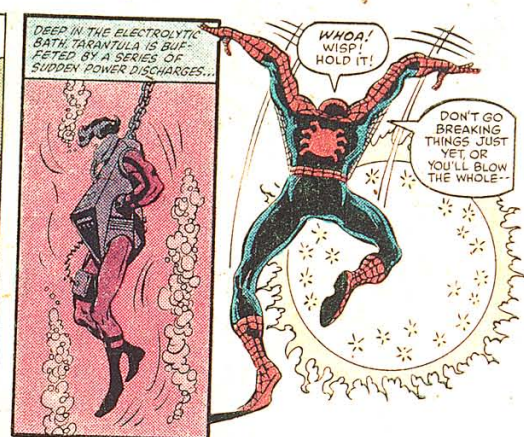
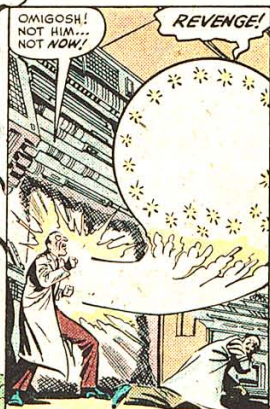
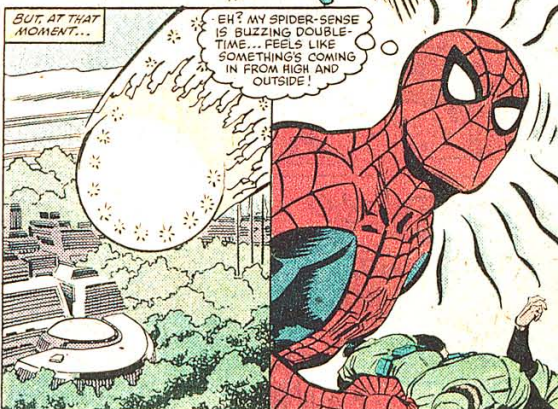
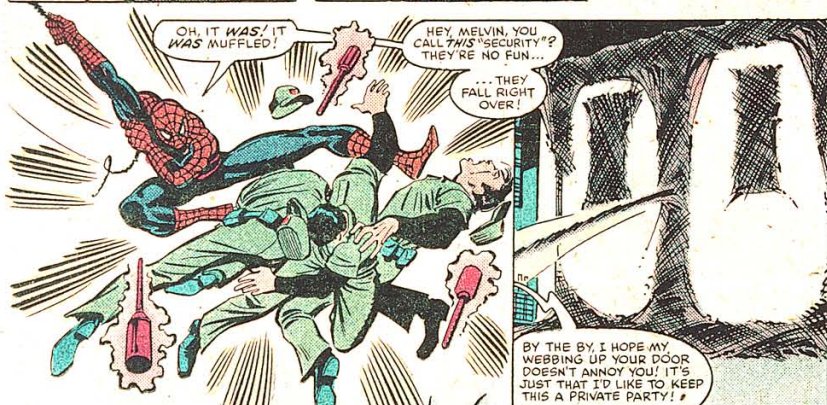
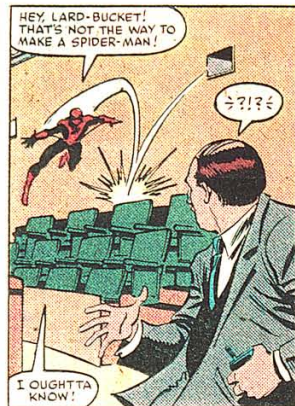
Special Titles

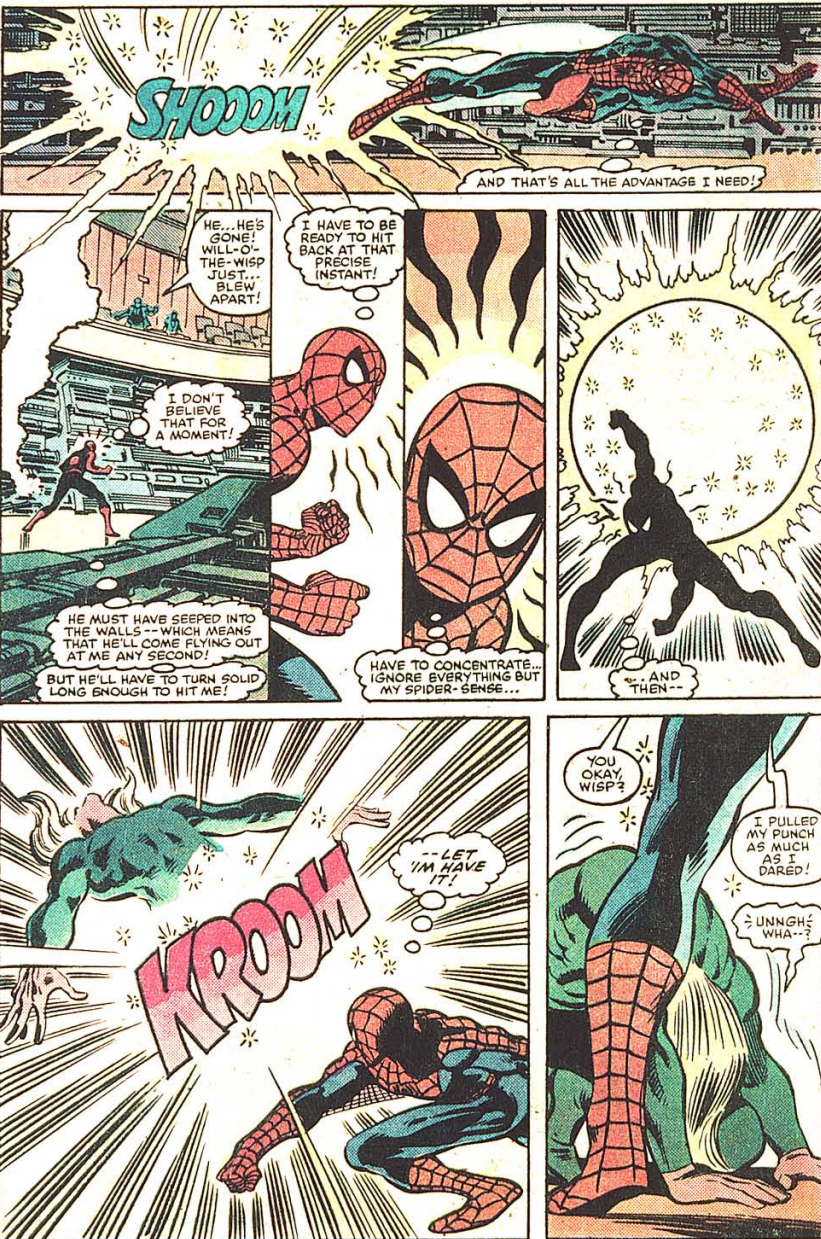
☐ Amazing Spider-Man	☐ Iron Man
☐ Avengers	☐ Marvel Tales
☐ Captain America	☐ Marvel Team-Up
☐ Conan	☐ Marvel Two-in-One
☐ Daredevil	☐ Master of Kung Fu
☐ Dazzler	☐ Powerman
☐ Defenders	☐ Peter Parker
☐ Dennis the Menace	☐ ROM
☐ Dr. Strange	☐ Spider-Woman
☐ Fantastic Four	☐ Star Wars
☐ Ghost Rider	☐ Team America
☐ G.I. Joe	☐ Thor
☐ The Incredible Hulk	☐ X-Men

Ka-Zar \$8 for 16 issues
Micronauts
Moon Knight

What If \$10 for 16 issues
King Conan







THE SPIDER'S WEB

© MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR
LINDA GRANT
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Tom:

There are innumerable phrases which can be used to describe the of wall-crawler. There is also an extremely large array of adjectives with which to refer to this magazine, the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, but there are a couple which stand brighter than others. You see, the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN contains the very identifiable element of the student facing all the problems posed by modern society. In these pages, Peter Parker is faced with the loss of loved ones, the problems of inflation, school, and peer pressure. Peter Parker is a most realistic young man. I guess that's why the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is really as popular as it is.

So much for the day's philosophical lesson...now on to the specifics about ASM #229.

Stupendous! I've wondered how long it would take for some enterprising souls to bring back the Juggernaut. And the story had some excellent moments of humor (walking through a wall is undoubtedly one of the most...uh...efficient ways of getting rid of a pest).

You can probably guess where I expect to see the unstoppable big guy next!

Daryl C. Collison
4602 Simcoe Street
Niagara Falls, Ontario
Canada L2E 1V3

Uh...no, Daryl. Where?

Dear Tom:

Once I saw the cover of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #229, I knew I had to buy it. And, to be sure, "Nothing Can Stop the Juggernaut" was superb. Still, the thought kept coming back to me: "Hasn't Spider-Man fought the Juggernaut before?" I checked through my old back issues...no! But, as I was looking through AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #37, something on the letters page caught my eye. Yes, there it was...a suggestion from one Bill Dargen of Manhattan Beach, California, to set the Juggernaut against Spider-Man! So, after one hundred and ninety-two issues, Bill finally got his wish!

Just a bit of information I thought might interest you. Again, my congratulations to all of you involved with AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #229. I loved it.

Todd Wilson
1401 Forest Hills Park
Lenoir, NC 28645

Never let it be said that Marvel doesn't follow the readers' advice, Todd! Sure, it may take a decade-and-a-half, but it's the thought that counts, right? (See, I hope Bill didn't miss the issue!)

Dear Tom,

"Roger Stern? Oh yeah, isn't he the guy that did the scripts for John Byrne's CAPTAIN AMERICA?"

While such a comment has yet to be heard by these ears, it does seem representative of the situation in which the artist tends to garner most of the praise on a stand-out magazine. This is probably only proper in a

visual medium like comics — and certainly, while one can list "great" artists with ease, there are fewer "great" writers who come to mind.

But if Roger Stern keeps up his current work level and continues to improve, he'll be in danger of going from being a solid, if somewhat obscure Marvel scripter, to a writer of considerable acclaim in the comics world. His current work on DOCTOR STRANGE is gathering fine praise, and his first two issues of GHOST RIDER show great promise.

And then there's the issue at hand: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #229. The cover declares, "Nothing Can Stop the Juggernaut!" Oh yeah. Ho-hum. Another slugfest between Spider-Man and a goon who's seen better days. But no, Roger shows us that *nothing* really does stop the Juggernaut! And he builds into the story all sorts of elements that have been seen all too infrequently in this comic...such as Spider-Man's true determination in the face of great personal danger. It may sound trite, but Roger made us *feel* it! (Hey, Spidey's over-matched here — he could get killed!) Add to that the bizarre pathos of Madame Web, the breakneck pace of the tale, and the fine art of John Romita Jr. and you have an utterly enjoyable issue. Now the crucial test: Can he cap off the tale next issue?

T.M. Maple
(No address given)
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Tom:

Congratulations on your amazing dovetailing of the adventures of everyone's favorite Web-head. All the plotlines are meshing nicely. I have always enjoyed his adventures, but had trouble figuring out what was happening when. Thank you for clearing things up.

In AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #229, I got a good chuckle out of seeing a Spider-foe pull a "funny" on the hero. I'm referring to Juggernaut's comment about Spider-Man wanting to stick with him, as Juggy blithely walked through the side of the building.

One question: Madame Web's apartment was supposedly on the top floor of her building. Yet, when Juggernaut comes to her door on page 19, there was a full-fledged staircase continuing upwards. What gives?

Barry Pidcock
521 Business Highway 190, #82
Harker Heights, TX 76541

No big mystery, Barry! The stairs continued on up to the roof!

Dear Tom:

I thoroughly enjoyed AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #229. The dream sequence was very nice, especially the way in which S-M's spider-embellishments were represented as real spiders. I was also glad to see Madame Web again. I'll be deeply disappointed if she dies. I wasn't all that happy to see the Juggernaut. While he is powerful and has background in the X-MEN and DOCTOR STRANGE (two of my favorite comics, after AMAZING SPIDER-MAN), his early appearances have left me frustrated, because he really was unstoppable. I want to see him get trashed, and I don't think Spider-Man has much of a chance of doing the trashing.

It was good to see Betty Leeds again, and to hear that she and Ned are working things out. Too often, the marriages in comics are depicted too simply. It's difficult for people to live together on a day-to-day basis without some problems. And the answer is not always divorce.

I just hope that Peter can eventually make some sense of his love life.

J. Kenneth Riviere
932 Austin Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30307

Did you reserve your copy of this year's AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL? You didn't?!? Tsk-tsk! Haven't you heard that it tells the origin of Marvel's newest super-star? Didn't you know that it guest-stars the mighty Avengers and that ever-lovin', blue-eyed Thing? And surely I told you that the creative team behind this extravaganza was Roger Stern, John Romita Jr., and John Romita Sr. I Didn't I?!

Hey, look — don't panic yet! There may still be time to get a copy of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #16! But don't delay, ya hear?

And while you're at it, don't forget to set aside a few shinkels for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #235! Okay? Okay!

Tom DeFalco



BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN LEE'S OLD JOB...

...for better or worse is in my hands. Yes, I'm the Editor-in-Chief of the entire Marvel Comics line, and I love it! Tomorrow the world!

BUT FIRST, THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE!

Last month I mentioned (barely) something called EPIC COMICS! I promised to tell you more about them this month. And so...

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE EPIC COMICS GROUP!

A lot of our ideas start with a "What if...?" A while back, Archie Goodwin, who's the Editorial Director of EPIC Illustrated Magazine, was sitting in a corner of the Bullpen sulking because his Associate Editor, Mary Jo Duffy, is so brilliant and efficient that he's always winding up with too much spare time. As I was walking by, I noticed Al Milgrom pull up a chair beside Archie to console him. Al, as if you didn't know it, is the genius editor of Marvel Fanfare, a few other terrific series, and the outrageously successful Marvel Graphic Novel, *The Death of Captain Marvel* (it was only the best-selling trade paperback in the country earlier this year). Not being one to miss out on a chance to loom over people, I, too, joined Archie in his corner.

My keen mind instantly deduced the cause of the problem. "Arch," I said in a wise, fatherly tone, "what you need is more work!" Staring into the sludge in the bottom of his coffee cup, Arch slowly, quietly muttered, "What if... what if we got together some of the best comics creators available..."

"Arch, um... that's our job, man! That's what we always do!" said Al, looking concerned that Goodwin had finally flipped.

"Let him finish, Al!" said I. "He may be onto something, I hope..."

Still staring into his cup, Archie continued, "We'll get the best! The very best! We'll pay them a lot of money so they can take their time..." He looked up, wild-eyed, his voice growing louder. He uttered each word as though it were meant to be carved onto stone tablets. "...AND THEN WE'LL LET THEM DO WHATEVER THEY WANT!" He was shouting.

"Shh!" I said, "You'll wake Hobson!" Mike Hobson, of course, is our Vice-President of Publishing. He doesn't really take afternoon naps in his office, but I started that rumor hoping to keep the noise level down in the Bullpen.

"Don't you see?" Goodwin hissed. "We'll encourage them to go nuts! All new characters! All new universes! New concepts! A whole new line of comics!"

"How's that different from EPIC Illustrated... or our Graphic Novels, Arch?" I asked softly, trying not to upset him further. Clearly, he was already raving.

"I'm talking about comics! Not short stories! Not limited runs! Not novels or one-shots! I'm talking comics!"

"You mean... you're talking about new, ongoing titles, like *The Amazing Spider-Man*?"

"Yes! New series! But not like Spider-Man! Different! Weird, even! But just as great!" Arch was shouting at me again. Meanwhile a light seemed to go on in Al's eyes.

"Yeah... Yeah!" said Milgrom. "I can see it now! We'll print on good, white paper... in full color!"

"We'll offer great deals to creators!" I added, catching on. "Incentives to make 'em pull out the stops and create! Special contracts, like the Graphic Novels and EPIC Illustrated use—that'll bring the superstar talent running!"

"Wait! What'll we call this new line?" Al belated. The entire Bullpen answered him.

"THE EPIC COMICS GROUP!" They were on their feet, cheering.

"Your problem is solved, Arch," I said, smugly.

But he was sitting again, hunched over, staring at the sludge. "Hey, what's wrong?" I asked.

"This is a big project," he muttered without looking up. "I don't know if I have time to fit it in. I may need another assistant..."

THUS, IT BEGAN!

Something like that, anyway. I'm pleased to announce that the first issue of our first EPIC COMICS GROUP series will go on sale in October. It's called *Dreadstar*! It's by Jim Starlin, and it's everything that such a historic premiere issue ought to be. It'll be on sale through stores serviced by our Direct Distributors only. It'll be priced at \$1.50 and a steal at that price. I confidently predict that its value as a collector's item will quickly soar.

If you don't live near a collector's store or another outlet serviced by a Direct Distributor, I'd suggest that you avail yourself of the special subscription offer below. That way you can be sure to get every issue!

STAN LEE'S NEW JOB...

...the one groomed onto a couple of years back, as V.P. of Creative Affairs, which entails being creative boss, big deal producer and high-cosmic muckamuck for Marvel's film studio, Marvel Productions, is keeping him very busy. Why so, you say? Well, I've managed to talk Stan himself into explaining what's up in Hollywood in a special Stan's Soapbox appearing on this page next month! That's a quite a feat, considering how busy he is with the four new shows and... oops! Almost stole his Hollywood Mogulship's lines! I'd better cool it...

...Till Next Month!

Stan

THE HYPE BOX

DAZZLER #21—The story so dramatic... so moving, we had to make this issue double-sized to contain it! Featuring: the shamelu! secrets of Dazzler's mother, the fate of Carter Blaine, Dazzler's Carnegie Hall debut, and more super hero guest-stars than you can imagine! And don't miss this issue's sizzling photo-cover!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #234—This time for sure—in addition to our usual STERN/ROMITA JR. Spider-Man magic, there's a special free bonus insert for you this time: the *Marvel Comics Guide to Collecting Comics*.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER TO DREADSTAR!

If you subscribe now, you can get 6 bi-monthly issues of **DREADSTAR** for only \$8.00! On the newsstand you'd pay \$9.00!

Just mail us this \$1.00 Savings Certificate with your remittance, and we'll deliver the excitement of **DREADSTAR** right to your door! Each issue is 32 pages of wall-to-wall thrills printed on high-quality paper.

PLUS! You can cancel at any time if not satisfied. Refund guaranteed!

SPECIAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATE	
Mail To:	
Marvel Comics	☐ YES! I enclose
Subscription Dept.	\$8.00 for 6
387 Park Avenue South	bi-monthly
New York, New York 10015	issues!
Name _____	Age _____
(please print)	
Address _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
Make check or money order payable to Marvel Comics.	
Canada and Foreign: Add \$2.00.	
Allow 10 weeks for delivery.	DST-82

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #93 — The Thing and Machine Man and Jocasta!
- ☐ TEAM AMERICA #6
- ☐ KING CONAN #13
- ☐ G. I. JOE #5
- ☐ DAZZLER #21
- ☐ KA-ZAR #20
- ☐ DENNIS THE MENACE #13
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #188
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #234
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #275
- ☐ THOR #325
- ☐ MICRONAUTS #47
- ☐ GHOST RIDER #74
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT #25
- ☐ HERCULES (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ CONAN THE MOVIE #2
- ☐ WOLVERINE (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #277
- ☐ AVENGERS #225
- ☐ CONAN #140
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #145
- ☐ X-MEN #163
- ☐ ROM #36
- ☐ POWER-MAN/IRON FIST #87
- ☐ VISION AND THE SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #1
- ☐ ANNIE #2
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #248
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #123 — Spider-Man and Daredevil!
- ☐ IRON MAN #164
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #72
- ☐ DEFENDERS #113
- ☐ STAR WARS #65
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #118
- ☐ BLADE RUNNER #2

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ CRAZY #91
- ☐ THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CANINE #81
- ☐ BIZARRE ADVENTURES #34
- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #5
- ☐ EPIC #14

MARVEL ANNUALS

- ☐ ROM ANNUAL #1
- ☐ X-MEN ANNUAL #6
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL #5
- ☐ CONAN ANNUAL #7
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL #6
- ☐ STAR WARS ANNUAL #2
- ☐ THOR ANNUAL #10

WOW!

24 Free Scratch 'n Sniff Stickers!

Kids, The Sticker Store™ is giving away stickers. Now when you buy a Collectors Wallet, you'll receive 24 Scratch and Sniff Stickers FREE. Your new Collectors Wallet will hold all your scratch and sniff stickers. Stickers are easy to pull off your wallet so you may trade them with friends. You'll also get a complete list of stickers you'll want to collect. Amaze your friends and family with stickers that smell like bananas, chocolate cake, pizza, gum and many more great smells.

SEND THIS COUPON IN TODAY

Rush me my Collectors Wallet and 24 FREE Scratch and Sniff stickers, we enclosed \$2.00 with this coupon, includes handling, postage and taxes.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send To: The Sticker Store
16783 Beach Blvd.
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

MARVEL COLLECTOR COMIC SETS

Each in VF to M condition with a price guide value in excess of your cost. Each set \$6.00. The complete set of 10 for \$50.00. Order individually, any issue \$1. \$3.00, \$2.00, \$3.00 or over \$1.00 ea. Minimum order \$4.00. Order only those books listed.

- SET #1 **Ma Marvel #1**
Red Sonja #1
Man from Atlantis #1
She Hulk #1
- SET #2 **Eternals #2**
J. Carter of Mars #1
Shogun Warriors #1
Logans Run #1
Star Wars #6
2001 #6 & #9
Howard The Duck #10

- SET #3 **Spider Woman #1**
Human Fly #1
What If #2
She Hulk #2
Logans Run #2

- SET #4 **Machine Man #1**
Kazar #1
What If #3
J. Carter of Mars #2
J. Carter of Mars #2
Man Thing #1
King Conan #1

- SET #5 **Micronauts #1**
Spider Woman #2, 3 & 4
What If #5
Ms. Marvel #2
Machine Man #2

- SET #6 **Battlestar Gal. #1, 2, & 3**
- SET #7 **Star Trek Super Special**

- SET #8 **Kazar #1**
Man From Atlantis #1
Human Fly #1
Machine Man #2
Moonknight #1

- SET #9 **ROM #1, 3, 4**
- SET #10 **She Hulk #1-4**

NEW ACTIVATED SUPER HEROES™ COLLECTION SET

Each set contains with 5 plastic Super Heroes with action handle that grip and slide down string, grappling hook with string & Super Heroes activator. Choose either set #88811 with Falcon, Human Torch, Doc Ock, Green Goblin & Spider or set #88812 with Sub-Mariner, Cap. Thor, Dr. Octopus & The Red Skull. Each set only \$3.99 or both for \$7.50.

VISION & THE SCARLET WITCH mini series #1-4 (#888113)

A must for all collectors. This 4 part mini series will be shipped in one package after the last book is received. (Estimated at the end of Oct.) The set of 4 - \$3.00. Orders sent in after October 1st \$4.00 & after Nov. 1st \$5.00 for the set.

CAMELOT 3000 (#888114)

DC's first venture into the direct only market. An exciting new format offset printing on 45 lb. Baxter text will give vibrant cover. Written by Barr with art by Brian Bolland. A must for all collectors. Issues 1-3 sold in a set \$3.50. (Orders after 10/1 \$4.00, after 11/1 \$5.00, after 12/1 write before ordering). Shipped upon arrival of 3rd issue due in October.

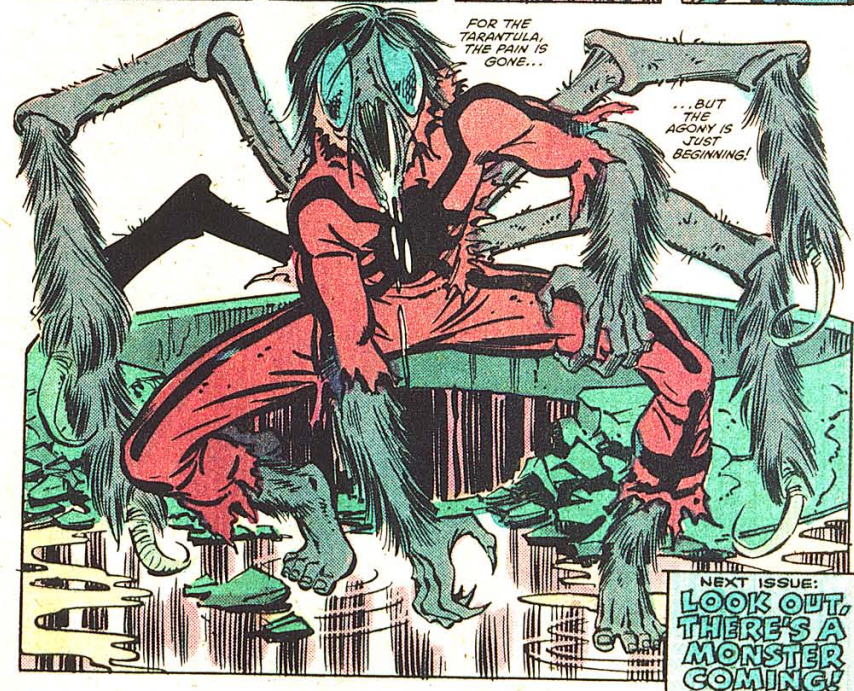
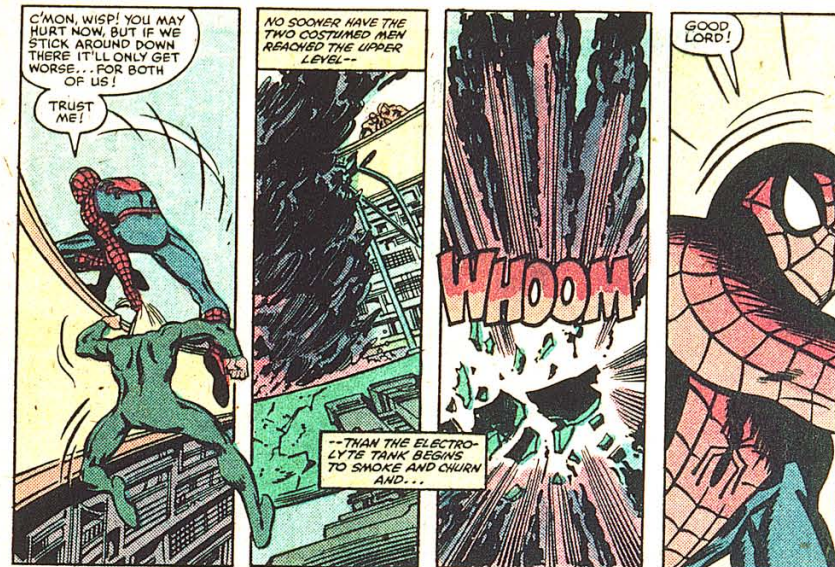
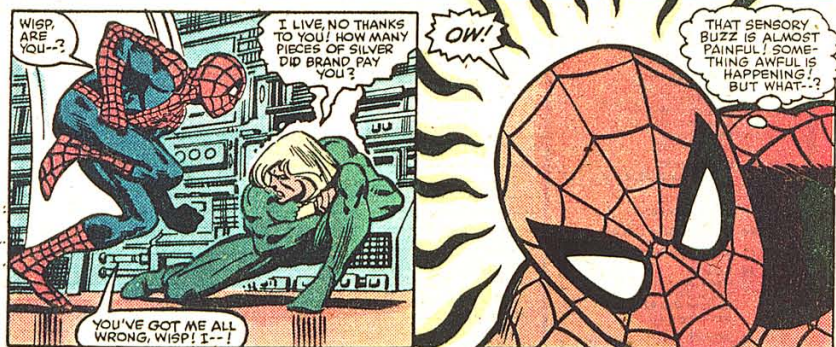
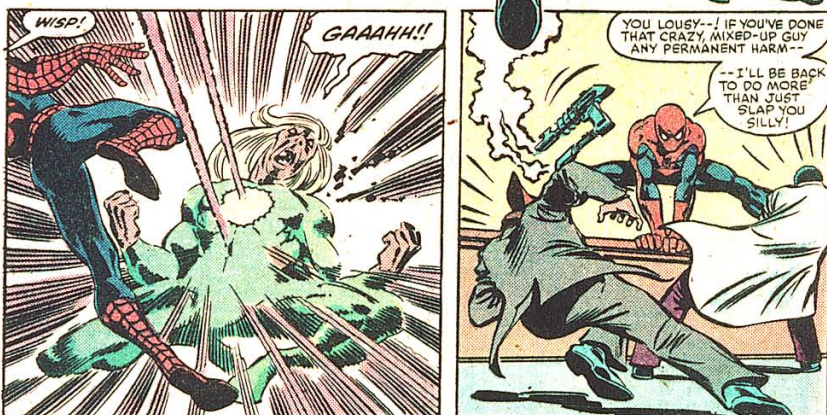
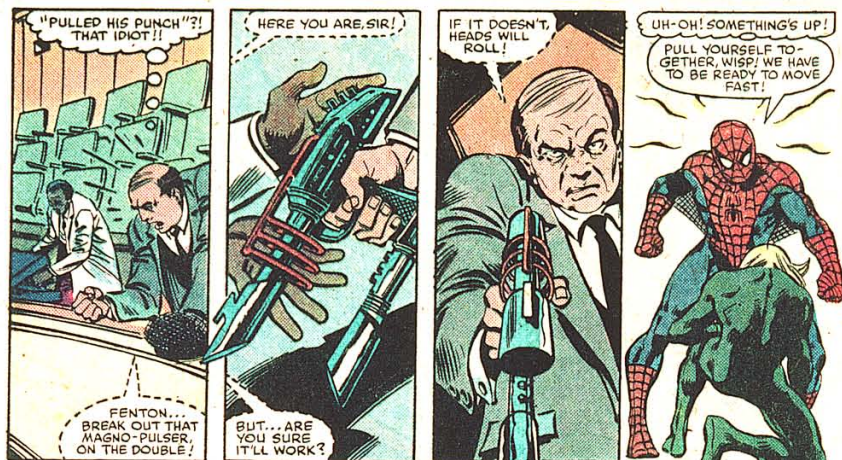
HEROES WORLD DISCOUNT COMIC & BOOK CLUB

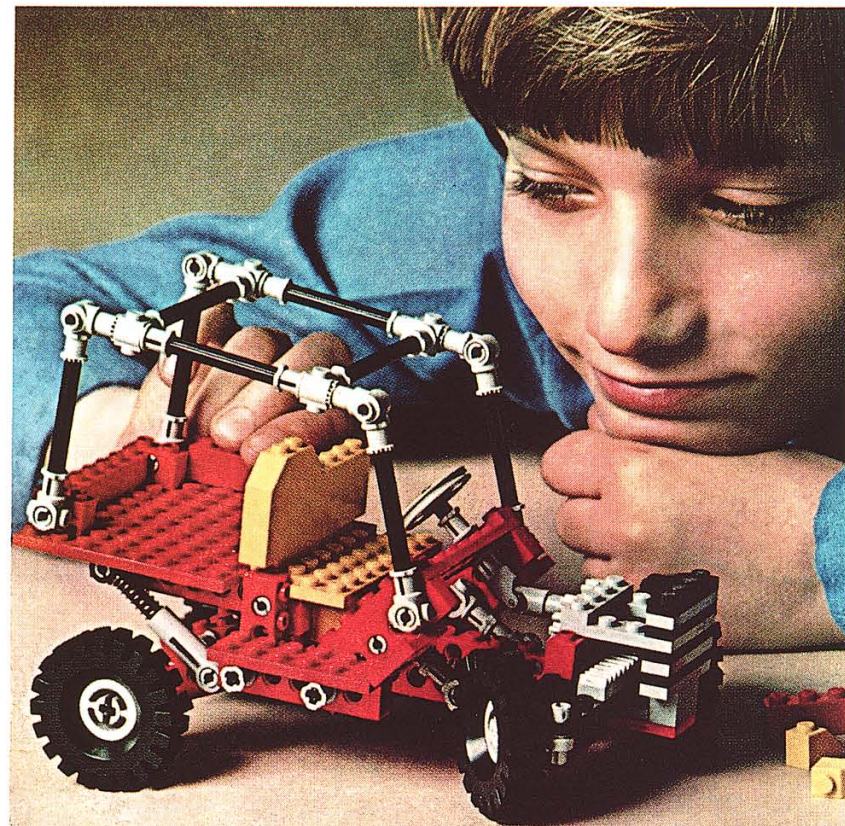
Receive DISCOUNTS on every item offered of NOT LESS THAN 20% and up to 50%. Order what you want, have the books shipped when & how you want them. For full details write now to HEROES WORLD DISCOUNT CLUB, 70 Morris St., Morristown, NJ 07960 or call (201) 455-1211.

Copyright © 1981 Marvel Comics Group, a div. of Cadence Industries Corp. All rights reserved. TM — Super Heroes is a jointly owned trademark of the Marvel Comics Group.

MAIL TO:		POSTAGE & HANDLING CHART			
HEROES WORLD-DEPT. 882		\$ 1 - 3.00	\$1.50	\$ 7.50 - 15.00	\$2.25
70 MORRIS ST.		\$ 3.00 - 7.50	\$1.75	\$15.00 & over	\$2.75
MORRISTOWN, NJ 07960					
PLEASE RUSH ME THE FOLLOWING ITEMS					
	QTY.	COST			
POSTAGE & HANDLING (SEE CHART)					
HEROES WORLD CATALOG \$1.00					
FROM	TOTAL				
NAME					
ADDRESS					
CITY	STATE	ZIP			
Allow 4 Weeks for Delivery - Canadian orders add \$1.00. All orders must be in U.S. funds. NJ residents add 5% Tax.					

VISIT OUR NEWEST HEROES WORLD - BURLINGTON MALL, NJ. ALSO COLUMBIA MALL, COLUMBIA MD. WHITE MARSH MALL, BALTIMORE MD. ECHLIN MALL, CHERRY HILL, NJ. GALLERIA MALL, WHITE PLAINS, NY. LIVINGSTON MALL, WOODBRIDGE MALL & MORRISTOWN, NJ. LEVITTOWN, NY. SOUTHFIELD MI.





YOU'RE BUILDING FOR REAL.

It's here. It's hot. And it's just like real: the new LEGO® Expert Builder™ Dune Buggy.

You build it from the ground up. And when you're finished you won't believe your eyes. You've made a Dune Buggy with coil-spring shocks, rack-and-pinion steering, and rugged rubber tires that move like real.

Want to build something else? You can turn the Dune Buggy into a dragster. Or start building for real with one of our 7 other exciting sets.

When you build a LEGO Expert Builder Set, you'll learn something, too. Just how much of an expert you really are.

©1982 LEGO Group. LEGO®, the LEGO Logo®, and EXPERT BUILDER™ are exclusive trademarks of Interlego A. G.

THE LEGO®
EXPERT BUILDER™
SERIES



IT'LL MAKE AN EXPERT OUT OF YOU.